

NEWS SUMMARY

Safe deposit loss
a 'record £30m'

Losses in the Knightsbridge safe deposit robbery were yesterday put at a record £30 million as four men were remanded by a London magistrates' court on charges linked to the raid four weeks ago (Our Crime Reporter writes).

Valerio Vicci, aged 32, unemployed, of no fixed abode in Britain, and Israel Pinkas, aged 46, an Israeli antique dealer, of Finchley Road, north London, were remanded in custody for two days by Horseferry Road magistrates, charged with robbery of property valued at £30 million.

David Poole, aged 47, of Spencer Road, Wandsworth, south-west London, also charged with the robbery, was remanded in custody for seven days. Elisha Ephraim, aged 42, from Tel Aviv, charged with handling a quantity of diamonds, was remanded in custody for two days.

Monorail £3m loan
for park charge

What is claimed to be the most advanced monorail in Europe was opened at the Alton Towers Theme Park in Staffordshire yesterday.

The "Silver Ride", costing £6 million, has been shipped from Vancouver in Canada, where it was one of the attractions at last year's World Exposition.

Seven nine-car trains will travel on the track, almost two miles long. They will be able to carry 25,000 visitors a day into the park.

An accountant was yesterday committed for trial at Lincoln Crown Court accused of a £3.4 million loan fraud.

Richard Coles, aged 40, of Hayton, near Retford, Nottinghamshire, was granted unconditional bail by Lincoln county magistrates.

Mr Coles, former company secretary of a leisure firm, is accused of conspiring with the firm's former managing director, Mr Robert Stapleton, to defraud the Government's Export Credit Guarantee Department.

Buyer's new excuse

The man who bought a Regency terrace of 10 houses at an auction and then said it was a ghastly mistake is offering a new explanation for his predicament. Mr Bill Savin first claimed he had unwittingly bought the houses in Bristol by scratching his head as the auctioneer was calling bids.

Yesterday, however, his solicitor said Mr Savin, an engineer, aged 54, had been an agent for a foreign buyer who backed out after the contract was signed. Mr Savin had arrived at the auction "fairly relaxed" after spending the day entertaining friends. His new explanation cut no ice with the vendors of the terrace who said that Mr Savin was legally bound to pay up or cover any shortfall at a subsequent re-auction.

Sea cliff attempt

Chris Bonington is to attempt to conquer the highest unclimbed sea cliffs in Britain later this month, it was announced yesterday.

The 1,000ft cliffs are on St Kilda, 50 miles west of Scotland.

The mountaineer said yesterday at his home in Badger Hill, Hesketh, Newmarket, Cambridgeshire: "I shall be accompanied by some of the best rock climbers in Britain."

"We shall have to use rubber dinghies to get to the base of the cliffs. The climb is going to be exceedingly difficult."

B-Cal link backed

Investors in Industry, which holds a 41 per cent stake in British Caledonian Airways, last night threw its weight behind the proposed merger between the airline and British Airways and ruled out any other bids.

The company, set up to provide funds for medium-sized business, and supported by the Bank of England and the main clearing banks, said that it welcomed the decision of the board of B-Cal to continue plans for the merger.

It added that it would make a submission to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission giving its views. So far three potential bidders for B-Cal have come forward.

Historic home of Lee Enfield rifle is to close

By Derek Harris
and Ronald Faux

The small arms factory at Enfield, Middlesex, the home of the Lee Enfield rifle — which for half a century was the British Army's best known weapon — is to close towards the end of next year as the newly privatized Royal Ordnance (RO) prepares for growing international competition.

Closure of the 171-year old Enfield factory means 1,200 jobs will go but expansion at RO's more modern Nottingham plant to accommodate small arms manufacture will create 500 new jobs there.

The gaunt sprawling building was the wrong size, shape

and design for the modern armaments business.

When Enfield production ends, its workers will be considered for any jobs available at other RO sites which will then total at least 13.

The closure decision had been precipitated by the decision by the management at RO, now part of British Aerospace, to take up a £100 million Ministry of Defence small arms contract which had been won in competitive tendering while RO was still state-owned.

The contract is for 155,000 firearms, including the SA 80 rifle, which is expected to be produced into the early part of the next decade.

Dr Maurice Dixon, chief executive at RO since it was bought by BAE last April, dismissed suggestions that a crucial factor in the decision to close Enfield was the potential value of its 110-acre site in an area of mixed residential and commercial development close to the M25.

Estimated closure costs are £13.5 million to be spread over this and next year, and £12 million will be invested in the Nottingham expansion.

The 1,200 workers at Enfield were stunned by yesterday's announcement which the unions described as unnecessary and draconian.

The market for small arms internationally is worth bil-

lions of pounds a year and competition is growing. RO is up against companies such as Colt in the United States, Belgium's FN, France's Famas, Austria's Steyr, Italy's Beretta, and West Germany's Heckler and Koch. Eastern bloc countries are also prolific producers and so are some in the Far East, including China and Singapore.

It will be the end of an era in Enfield, where small arms production began in 1811 after the Napoleonic wars caused a serious shortage of weapons.

Building started on what was then the Royal Manufactory for barrels and locks, and

when it was completed in 1816 the state manufacture of muskets, carbines, pistols and bayonets moved there from the Tower of London and Lewisham. In 1850 the Enfield plant became the Royal Small Arms Factory.

By 1871 the Enfield factory was producing the Martini Henry rifle and then in 1895 came the Mark I version of the Lee Enfield rifle.

With the turn of the century came the Maxim machine-gun and as demands from the Royal Air Force developed, the Enfield factory produced cannon for Spitfire and Hurricane fighters.

The short magazine Lee

Enfield went into production in 1902 and the reputation of the firearm grew as it was used in the Boer wars and then the First World War. Between 1914 and 1918 alone two million Lee Enfields were produced. It was still in service in the Second World War and for some years afterwards.

Enfield's ordnance factory produced the Bren rapid-fire gun from 1937 and the Sten sub-machine-gun from 1941. Then in 1952 the Aden gun was produced, followed in 1957 by a self-loading rifle made under licence from FN of Belgium. Production of the Enfield weapon system, including a rifle and a machine-gun, started in 1985.

Civil Service
union fights
regional pay
bargaining

By Roland Radd

The largest Civil Service union which recently rejected a call for an all-out strike is fighting a rearguard action against the Government's move towards regional pay bargaining.

Mr John Ellis, the moderate general secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association, is firmly against any switch from national to regional pay bargaining because he believes "such a system would ultimately provide even lower pay settlements".

Mr Ellis said he could not understand how "it would be possible to decide how much administrative assistants and administrative officers should be paid on a region by region basis even if the Treasury could gather the statistics on which the calculations would have to be based".

Any move away from national bargaining would sharpen the need for local union officers but emasculate the power and influence of the national union leaders.

After the bitter and prolonged Civil Service strike a working party made of representatives from the union and the Treasury has started to try to find an acceptable formula for a more flexible pay structure.

But Mr Ellis is concerned that the Treasury may try to introduce the contentious pay bargaining through increasing the geographical limits of London weighting.

The union has already been offered 4% per cent but rejected it as inadequate to cope with exorbitant living costs in the capital.

The Treasury has yet to submit its report on pay, recruitment and retention to the Council of Civil Servants. But it is understood that Whitehall has decided to split the country into three areas:

London, the South-east and elsewhere.

At present Civil Servants are given a special allowance for working within 18 miles of central London.

According to the recently published survey of the research group, Rewards Regional Surveys, the trend among employers is to extend the geographical limits for extra payments from the old Greater London Council boundary to the M25, a policy which is expected to become increasingly common.

Although Mr Ellis is not averse to the boundary being extended he is anxious not to see it pushed out too far in case the increment becomes regional pay by another name.

The National Westminster Bank has raised its London allowances by between 50 and 157 per cent and created a new £750-a-year payment for staff employed as far away as Milton Keynes and the Isle of Wight.

Mr Ellis believes that is the "first step down the road to regional pay bargaining" and is worried about "speculation that the Treasury may take the same route".

A Treasury spokesman yesterday denied that the Government had any plans to implement regional pay bargaining and that the working party had just been set up to explore the "long term pay arrangements".

None the less, the spokesman made it plain that regional pay bargaining was one solution being talked about to solve the problem of "recruitment and retention of Civil Servants" particularly in the South-east and London.

The employers are anxious to reduce the damagingly high staff turnover, which in some offices of the Department of Health and Social Security is more than 70 per cent a year.

Work in
inner
cities 'a
penalty'

By Paul Eastham

Young offenders are likely to be set to work on the campaign to regenerate inner cities under proposals being drawn up by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary.

He has been impressed by the results of the Five Towns Experiment, a scheme set up in 1985 in Croydon in Surrey, Swansea, Bolton, North Tyneside, and Wellingborough in Northamptonshire, in which young offenders worked under community service orders on projects to restore the environment.

Mr Hurd is said to be anxious to expand the scheme into areas with high crime levels. A formal evaluation is under way and an announcement spreading the scheme to a number of more towns is expected in the autumn.

Each of the five existing projects is run by a steering committee including representatives from councils, the police, probation services, voluntary organizations, schools, colleges and businesses.

The Home Office pays the salary of a full-time co-ordinator for each project, but the other resources are found locally. The committee draws up a detailed crime profile for its area and decides what projects could be carried out by youngsters who have committed relatively minor offences.

In Bolton, the crime profile established that two-thirds of burglaries involved thefts from gas and electricity meters, so offenders are helping to install cashless ones. In Wellingborough, a programme to fit homes in high-risk areas with better security devices has cut burglaries by a third.

The Prince of Wales is turning his mind from the problems of inner cities to rural decay in his own Duchy of Cornwall.

He has asked to take part in a conference in November, when 20 of Cornwall's influential decision-makers will discuss ideas to boost the county's economy.

Lundy crime
wave haul
is recovered

By Robin Young

The crime wave on Lundy Island, 12 miles off the north Devon coast, appears to have ended. After at least 10 years free of reported crime, and no serious offences within memory, the island had an unprecedented run of four thefts this week.

Two policemen from Bideford have been investigating a series of offences and yesterday it was reported that camera equipment, climbing gear and clothing valued at about £1,500 had been recovered.

Previous inquiries by Det Sgt Fred Wilson and PC Malcolm Corlett had been hampered by the fact that over the weekend they only had time to stay on the island for two hours, having flown over by helicopter.

On Wednesday, when it became clear that the first thefts had not been the work of a Saturday day tripper, the police returned by boat and stayed overnight.

Two youths aged 18 from the north of England have been questioned.

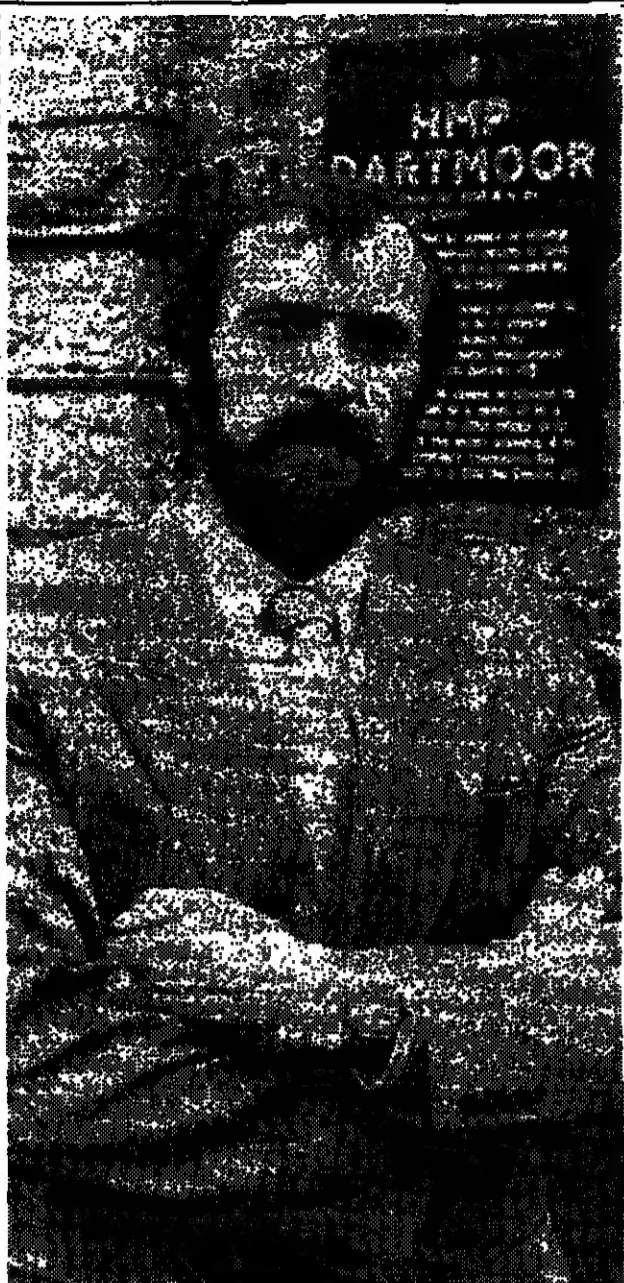
Doors open on
prehistoric
settlement

A 3,000-year-old Bronze Age lake village, the best preserved prehistoric settlement in England, was opened to the public yesterday.

It was discovered five years ago by Dr Francis Pryor who was excavating a Roman road when he fell over a prehistoric log and discovered the site, in near perfect condition, 70ft below ground in Cambridgeshire.

Miss Maisie Taylor, an archaeologist who was working on a comparable site in The Netherlands, flew back to England to find that the British site at Flag Fen, Peterborough, was only 20 miles from her home.

The site covers several acres containing a large Bronze Age long house next to a large scale model of the original lake village.



Mr May, who says he has the support of most of his staff.

Prison governor
refuses to resign

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Reporter

The governor of Dartmoor prison yesterday blamed staff shortages and anxiety over proposed changes at the establishment as the reasons for the vote of no confidence passed in him by his staff this week, but he said he would not resign.

Mr John May, the governor, made his statement after Lord Calhoun, Minister of State at the Home Office, had expressed his support for him.

Mr May, aged 40 and governor since 1985, said he believed that he had, in fact, the confidence of most of the staff.

Dartmoor's problems are to be raised by the Prison Officers' Association (POA) with the Home Office.

Mr David Evans, POA general secretary, described the situation as a "stand-off" and said that relations between the governor and staff could deteriorate.

Mr May said that he did not believe "there were fundamental problems at Dartmoor which are intractable. It is business as usual. I think this vote was a temporary aberration and I will soon be talking about all sorts of things."

He said: "Naturally I am disappointed there was a vote. It arises from feelings I can understand of uncertainty and anxiety at a time of considerable change."

The POA said the issues that led to the vote for industrial action and then the vote of no confidence involved the governor's desire to change the prison regime through offering prisoners more facilities at a time of staff shortages.

The dispute apparently intensified when the governor said he planned to use his powers to order officers to do extra overtime to give prisoners their association time.

Mr May denied that he was too liberal. "There is no question of Dartmoor becoming a soft option. I have been trying to build on our extremely good reputation for containment and control and to try to improve what we do in the area of rehabilitation."

Union leaders are hoping to persuade British Coal to agree to the appointment of an independent arbiter to settle

New call
to curb
private
test labs

By Jill Sherman
Social Services
Correspondent

A new group of private pathologists is pressing for private laboratories to be licensed and inspected in an attempt to outlaw "cowboy" clinics.

The Association of Independent Pathology Laboratories, which is backed by the Royal College of Pathologists, has been set up in the wake of reports of poor standards in laboratories testing for cervical cancer.

Its establishment also follows fears that clinics testing for AIDS will mushroom without any controls.

The association, which will be affiliated to the Independent Hospital Association and has its official launch next week, aims both to ensure that laboratories adopt quality control standards which apply to the National Health Service, and that they are monitored.

It is being set up jointly by representatives from two private hospital groups, American Medical International and Bupa; a large London private laboratory, JSPS, and the Royal College of Pathologists.

It will first set up a registration and accreditation system for the country's 400 pathology laboratories which it hopes will lead to a statutory licensing system.

"Once we get independent laboratories to join the association we hope this will lead to government licensing," Dr Peter Trott, adviser on clinical cytology to the Royal College of Pathologists, said.

"Without statutory powers we will not achieve our objective of removing cowboys from the private pathology arena."

Dr Trott, who is also secretary to the British Society of Clinical Cytology, has been lobbying for greater controls over private laboratories processing smears for cervical cancer since a quality control test at the Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge showed that a private laboratory failed to notice four out of five positive smears.

Under the present system anyone can set up a private laboratory with or without qualified staff, with no quality controls and offer their services to clinicians.

The doctor who refers tests from either NHS or private hospitals has no guidance whether or not the clinics are reputable.

"The association is concerned with maintaining high standards of service where they exist in the private sector and ensuring that others meet these levels," Dr Trott said.

Miner postpones job offer decision

By Tim Jones

A miners' branch secretary who has been prevented by British Coal from working at Stillingfleet colliery in Yorkshire for alleged industrial misconduct has postponed his decision on whether to work at a pit outside the £1.4 billion Selby project.

Mr Ted Scott, a development worker at Stillingfleet, was originally dismissed for his part in wildcat strikes. He is awaiting the outcome of the National Union of Mineworkers' ballot against the

revised code of conduct before deciding whether to accept the job offer at the Wheldale Colliery, Castleford.

He has been told that if he accepts the new position he must agree not to organize "industrial action in breach of the law and of his own union rules which clearly state that only the union's national executive committee can sanction a strike".

Union leaders are hoping to persuade British Coal to agree to the appointment of an independent arbiter to settle

industrial disputes who would have the power to reinstate a man to his former position.

At present, industrial tribunals can only make non-binding recommendations.

The number of strikes per person employed in the industry is 35 times the average number of strikes in the economy as a whole and miners lose eight times as many hours through industrial action as the UK average.

Last year, the industry lost £40 million in lost coal production.

NEW INTEREST RATE

Midland Bank announces that, with effect from 17th August 1987, the Standard Debit Rate of Interest applied to overdrafts that have not been pre-arranged will be increased by 1.3% to 22.8% per annum APR 24.8%.



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TV violence down with BBC ahead in purge says survey

By Howard Foster

Violence on television has shown a steady decrease in recent years, with the BBC leading ITV in the move to "clean up" the screens, a university survey said yesterday.

Although commissioned by the BBC, the Aston University research group produced its report independently and its findings fly in the face of the conventional wisdom that television shows more violence now than it did 10 years ago.

The group watched four weeks of output on all four channels between May and September of last year to make the first highly-detailed analysis of graded violence on all

types of programme since the early 1970s.

In that time, the number of violent acts shown each hour on television has come down from 2.30 in 1971 to 2.07 in 1986.

Thirty per cent of the 2,078 programmes analysed in the latest study depicted violence of some kind, but the Aston team graded this from a mere push to extreme violence and much supposed violence could fall into the former category.

Overall, programmes shown in 1986 which were made in the 1960s had 4.5 violent acts an hour. Those made in the 1970s ran at 3.3 acts an hour and programmes

made in the 1980s had only 2.3 acts an hour.

The violence was found to be more prevalent on ITV, with viewers seeing 2.1 violent acts an hour, compared with 1.4 for BBC 1 and BBC 2 and 1.3 for Channel 4.

The violence lasted an average of 25 seconds per act and, the report discloses, if a viewer watches four hours of television a day he or she will be likely to observe 6.72 violent acts.

Dr Guy Cumberbatch, who headed the survey team, emphasized at a press conference to launch the report yesterday that most television violence is sanitized and a tiny proportion of it could be regarded as "horrific".

American programmes are found to be more than three times as violent as British ones, with a frequency of 3.6 violent acts an hour compared with 1.1. In all, 31 per cent of the violence on British screens is accounted for by US imports.

The survey finds that American feature films are notably violent and contained an average of six violent acts a film compared with three for British-originated films.

Feature films accounted for 41 per cent of all violent acts. Under the "adventure" category of programme, the showing of two James Bond films and their accompanying violence during the survey boosted the violence to an unprecedented nine acts an hour.

The most violent programme categories were to be spy, fantasy, cartoon, war, detective, crime and thriller. The study did find that older crime/thriller series such as *The Sweeney* were more violent than a more modern counterpart such as the BBC's *Juliet Bravo*.

Channel 4's soap opera, *Brookside*, is taken to task by Dr Cumberbatch for containing some scenes described as distressing to watch, involving violence against women.

Almost a third of television news programmes contained some violence, with half of this coming from coverage of riots or civil strife. Children's television was found, with the exception of cartoons, to contain little violence. Again, American cartoons such as *He-Man* and *She-Ra* are found to have twice as much violence in them as their British counterparts.

The survey found that there was a difference between violence shown before and after 9pm, the "watershed" in which children are expected to leave the viewing audience.

ACTS OF VIOLENCE		TYPES OF VIOLENCE	
(Violent acts per hour in various programme types)		(Cases of violent actions in most common types)	
Spy	9.1	Push/rip etc	634
Fantasy	7.7	Violent death	491
Cartoon	6.9	Shooting	427
Avant garde	4.4	Punch	406
War	5.4	Hit (with object)	321
Detective	5.3	Death	203
Crime	4.7	Throwing	180
Thriller	4.7	Violent attempts	128
Sci-Fi	4.6	Wounding	123
Western	4.6	Murder	114
Police	4.6	Property damage	102
All comedy	3.6		

Grade concerned over some American shows

During yesterday's press conference to publicize the survey, Mr Michael Grade, BBC TV's director of programmes, expressed concern about the content of some American shows. He said that the BBC had refused to screen four episodes of the current series of *Miami Vice* and that several cuts had been made in other, screened episodes.

He was happy to learn that the next series of the show would be much lighter.

The BBC had rejected one American series, *Crime Story*, for its violence and said that the network would never have screened the crime series. *The Equalizer*, starring Edward Woodward, although this is shown on ITV.

"The report teaches us two lessons", Mr Grade said. "We have to tighten up the watershed. One or two programmes are still slipping through and being shown too early."

"The other thing is that we must continue with our policy of being extremely scrupulous in the purchase of American series. We are not trying to eliminate violence from our television screens."

"There are a number of series we have turned down that five or 10 years ago perhaps we would have wanted."

A spokesman for the Independent Broadcasting Authority emphasized yesterday that it had not yet had time to study the report in full.

"Another way of carrying out research is to go out and ask viewers directly what they think. We shall be producing a report in the autumn which has used this approach."

Mrs Mary Whitehouse, president of the National Viewers and Listeners Association, a constant critic of television violence, called the report a "con trick" because it described violence in terms of acts an hour.

"The number of transmission hours is now far greater than it was in the 1960s and 1970s", Mrs Whitehouse said. The BBC yesterday rejected Mrs Mary Whitehouse's criticism.

"In fact, for the purpose of comparison of trends, the team only compared television programmes shown after 4.30pm the BBC said.

Buoyant car sales may fail to break record

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

Sales of new E registration cars in the first 10 days of August are more than 10 per cent up on last year's record rate.

However, many car dealers report demand "similar" to the launch of the D registration prefix, and there are doubts that registrations for the whole of August will top the 382,000 cars bought 12 months ago.

Official figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders show that in the first 10 days of the month, new registrations reached 243,484, 10.9 per cent higher than in August 1986. The only problem for many car dealers is having enough cars to satisfy demand.

A south London Jaguar dealer said yesterday that demand in August had been "terrific" but there is a nine-month waiting list for the new XJ6 model. Jaguar registrations for the first 10 days were more than 60 per cent up on the same period in 1986.

Shortage of some Austin Rover models including the

Montego is judged by dealers to be preferable to the position last year when stocks were too high.

The booming demand for new cars appears to have done little to quell the price discount war as dealers strive to meet sales targets set by the manufacturers. In spite of an average dealer profit margin of 15 or 16 per cent net, many motorists have negotiated list price discounts, even on popular models, of up to 12 per cent.

The Peugeot 205 is set to be the best selling imported car in a month when the private motorist outranks fleet car operators and has helped the French company to overtake Audi VW as the top European importer. Citroen sales are up by 74 per cent compared with the same month in 1986.

Scientific evidence of the effect of fatigue on safe driving is expected to come from Leeds University researchers assessing human behaviour as part of the AA's foundation for road safety established this year.

Pilgrims face stall pickets in pay dispute

By Alan Hamilton

Sellers of religious souvenirs at Knock, the Roman Catholic shrine in Co Mayo, Ireland, have gone on strike claiming they are paid only £5 a day for a 10-hour shift.

The 10 strikers, all teenagers, have greeted pilgrims with placards, and have applied to join the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union.

Five souvenir stalls selling rosaries, crucifixes and other artefacts in the grounds of the International Hotel at Knock are being picketed; another 45 are unaffected.

The stalls are operated by the hotel. One of the strike leaders, Mr James McEvilly, said yesterday he was expected to be a gardener and kitchen waiter and also to man a stall for 50p an hour.

Mr David Mullis, a union official, said: "If the workers' story is genuine, the law is clearly being flouted on the basis of the minimum wage". The International Hotel, which employs the stallholders, said it knew nothing about the strike.

Very modern major-general



Mr John Reed, "the very model of a modern major-general" who has been a Gilbert and Sullivan performer for 35 years, rehearsing with the London Savoyards for a new *Pirates of Penzance*, opening at The Barbican, London, on August 19. (Photograph: Stephen Markeson)

Spread of Aids

Warning on drug abusers

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

An alarming picture of how Aids infection can be spread across Britain by drug addicts who share needles has been produced by specialists.

A study published in the *British Medical Journal* today shows that addicts in Edinburgh, more than half of whom are carriers of the Aids virus, shared needles with other abusers in 17 other British towns as well as in Paris, Amsterdam and Rotterdam.

The evidence is the most striking yet gathered and is presented with a warning that intravenous drug addicts are the most likely source of spreading Aids into the general population.

Spread by needles happens at five to seven times the rate reached by way of sexual intercourse, according to the specialists. But addicts can also transmit the infection through sexual intercourse, and infected women can pass it to their babies in pregnancy.

Those dangers are the basis of next month's government publicity campaign on Aids, which is being aimed directly at drug abusers.

Edinburgh is Britain's worst affected city for drug-related HIV infection, with more than 1,000 addicts believed to be carrying the human immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV).

The outbreak there is largely due to the frequency with which needles have been

shared in back street "shooting galleries" to avoid police searches of suspected abusers. "The mobility of drug abusers

- 1 Falkirk (1)
- 2 Stirling (1)
- 3 Glasgow (5)
- 4 Aberdeen (5)
- 5 Inverness (2)
- 6 Elgin (1)
- 7 Wick (1)
- 8 Newcastle (1)
- 9 Manchester (1)
- 10 Liverpool (1)
- 11 Cambridge (1)
- 12 Northampton (1)
- 13 Oxford (2)
- 14 Bristol (1)
- 15 London (15)
- 16 Stonehouse (2)
- 17 Belfast (1)
- 18 Amsterdam (2)
- 19 Rotterdam (1)
- 20 Paris (1)



Needle-sharing instances involving 44 Edinburgh drug abusers.

ers has not been well appreciated.

"Recent reports suggest that the HIV seropositivity rate is rising in England and Wales, and it will not be long therefore before other cities in the UK have a problem with HIV similar to Edinburgh's."

"This, and the fact that the spread of HIV by needles occurs at five to seven times the rate by sexual intercourse, should re-emphasize the fact that if this disease becomes disseminated into the general population, it will do so from heterosexual drug abusers", they say.

The team of nine experts, led by Dr Ray Breble, of the infectious diseases unit at the City Hospital, Edinburgh, calls for more generalized screening and counselling facilities.

Those measures are needed they say, "to delineate the problem further and prevent the transmission of HIV to other drug abusers, their sexual contacts, and children".

Forty-four Edinburgh addicts in the study were found to have shared needles with others as far apart as Stonehouse and Wick.

The study shows that of 441 new patients at an HIV screening clinic, more than 60 per cent were drug abusers, and of that group, 52 per cent were HIV positive.

Video film campaign in prisons

Growing concern about Aids risks in British jails led the Home Office yesterday to launch an information campaign for all prisoners and prison officers.

An explicit video film about the risks of contracting the disease will be shown to the officers. Each of the 51,000 inmates will be given an educational pamphlet.

However, there are no plans for the mandatory testing of

prisoners. Dr John Kilgour, director of prison medical services, said yesterday.

A total of 62 prisoners, including three women, are known to be carrying the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), but Dr Kilgour said he believed the true figure might be nearer 250.

Only one prisoner, a heroin addict, developed Aids. He has since died.

Dr Kilgour defended the present system in which HIV-positive inmates are placed either in a single cell or a communal cell shared with other carriers, saying it was best for individuals and the general prison population.

Dr Kilgour agreed at a news conference that sexual contact and intravenous drug abuse, the most likely forms of transmission, still happened in prison.

Child abuse inquiry

'Open hostility' between police and consultants

By Ian Smith

Tension between police and two consultant paediatricians in Cleveland turned to open hostility, the county's chief constable told the child sexual abuse inquiry yesterday.

Mr Christopher Payne said that it led to a senior police surgeon being refused access to children diagnosed as sexual abuse victims, hampering police investigations into suspected serious crimes.

On 14 occasions Dr Alistair Irvine was not allowed to examine 26 children, and detectives became sceptical of sexual abuse diagnoses made by the paediatricians.

Mr Payne told Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss, who is conducting the judicial inquiry at Middlesbrough town hall, that until May relationships between the police and other agencies were at a high level.

But then came an unprecedented increase in child sexual abuse diagnoses by Dr Marietta Higgs and Dr Geoffrey Wyatt, consultants at Mid-

Mr Payne said that the police viewed refusal of a second examination by a doctor nominated by them as clearly hindering their inquiries. "Refusal to allow the police surgeon to examine a suspected victim of child sexual abuse was in direct contravention of existing procedural guidelines. Significant changes came from the escalation of allegations of sexual abuse to children during May and June. Finally, detectives experienced in this work were seriously doubting the validity of the paediatricians' diagnoses."

Mr Payne was allowed to present his statement outlining the history of the Cleveland dispute only after lengthy statements had been made by counsel representing Cleveland's social services, the Northern Regional Health Authority, the two paediatricians and South Tynes Health Authority, who argued that only non-contentious sections of his evidence should be heard.

However, Mrs Justice Butler-Sloss ruled that all but a small section of his evidence should be heard immediately. Sections which deal with specific cases of alleged child abuse will be heard later in private to prevent identification of children involved.

The inquiry was told later that police were called to a ward in Middlesbrough General Hospital to protect a doctor from parents whose children had been diagnosed as sexual abuse victims.

Mr Ian Donaldson, general administrator for South Tynes Area Health Authority, said that the situation on June 19 was "very tense", with children resisting their forced admission and groups of parents talking together. "They were sharing experiences, which was creating real tension, and blaming the doctors for taking the children even when they had done nothing wrong."

Mr Donaldson said that he confronted Dr Wyatt, who had been joined by Dr Higgs, and said that the situation was unacceptable. He urged the doctors to ease back on admissions for four or five days.

● Detectives were seriously doubting the validity of doctors' diagnoses ●

Middlesbrough General Hospital, often involving children and parents who were expecting only treatment for routine illnesses.

Mr Payne said that the impact of this was profound. Parents expressed total shock, children who had not complained of being abused were taken into care, and social workers became increasingly unco-operative.

Dr Irvine was strongly opposed to the anal reflex dilation analysis used by the two consultants in reaching their diagnoses and things reached a head at a meeting on May 28 between police, their surgeon, Dr Higgs and Mrs Susan Richardson, Cleveland social services child abuse consultant.

Mrs Richardson proposed changes in the way victims were medically examined and suggested that responsibility for these examinations should be removed from the police surgeon and given exclusively to paediatricians.

Mr Payne said that the meeting developed into a heated exchange between Dr Higgs and Dr Irvine, with each challenging the other's professional opinions. Mrs Richardson continually interrupted, saying that she supported Dr Higgs 100 per cent and would endeavour to refer all suspected abuse cases to her.

She was opposed to joint examinations by police surgeons and paediatricians, and a second opinion would only be possible if conducted by Dr Jane Wynne or Dr Christopher Hobbs, Leeds paediatricians who are regarded as leading authorities on child sexual abuse.

Mr Payne said that Dr Higgs appeared to be baffled by police reluctance to act authoritatively on her verbal opinion, although she conceded that her unsupported conclusions in sexual abuse cases would be treated with caution by police officers investigating very serious cases. The meeting ended abruptly.

There followed a number of meetings designed to end animosity and lower professional pique. Police chose not to attend a meeting of the joint child abuse committee but two days later hosted a meeting at police headquarters, where Mr Payne met Mr Michael Bishop, the director of Cleveland social services, to discuss the increase in child sexual abuse cases.

Mr Bishop and his deputy expressed confidence in Dr Higgs and said they were obliged to refer cases to her because of her position as community paediatrician at South Tynes Hospital. They argued that her evidence should be sufficient for use by police in criminal proceedings.

● Heated exchanges between doctors challenging each other's opinions ●

to reduce tension but they maintained that if they came across sexual abuse they had to do something about it.

Mr Donaldson said yesterday that four days earlier had three nurses had made statements complaining about Dr Higgs and Dr Wyatt. After taking legal advice he met both doctors and attempted to convince them of the need to stay within ethical and legal limits. Their response, he said, was to argue how imperative it was to unearth abuse and how serious was the consequent long term damage suffered by abused children.

During the conversation, Dr Wyatt said that he had radically changed his clinical practice a month earlier after watching Dr Higgs' medical performance. He had become convinced that uncovering sexual abuse was the most important aspect of child health.

The inquiry was adjourned until Monday.



Mr Payne: 'Investigations were being hampered'.

Medical breakthrough

Valve helps cancer patients' speech

By Kerry Gill

A tiny plastic valve which could revolutionize the life of sufferers from cancer of the larynx throughout the world was demonstrated at a Scottish hospital yesterday.

More than 200 delegates attending the International Symposium on Voice, at Bangour General Hospital, near Livingston, Lothian, were welcomed by Mr Robert Brown, aged 64, who underwent an operation for cancer of the larynx in November 1984.

Mr Brown, of Whitburn, West Lothian, was left with a hole in his throat, meant to allow him to breathe more easily. But he had to cover the hole in order to breathe

through the mouth when speaking.

He became one of the pioneer patients to have the valve inserted in his throat, allowing him to speak without the inconvenience and embarrassment of constantly pressing the hole in his throat.

"It took a bit of getting used to having this in my throat, but it is marvellous now", he said before opening a trade exhibition at the symposium.

The valve has been developed by Dr Waryan Singh, consultant otolaryngologist at Bangour. In more recent surgical procedures patients could speak after an operation, but only by closing the

breathing hole with a finger.

This, Dr Singh said, was unhygienic, and could be embarrassing.

The valve, which is only three centimetres deep, operates as the patient wants to speak. The increased pressure of exhaled air closes the valve, and diverts air through a speech fistula. The valve automatically opens when the patient ceases speaking.

So far nine patients have tried the valve and found it easy to use. All have found the ability to have both hands free during speech a psychological boost, Dr Singh said.

About 2,000 people suffer from cancer of the larynx each

year, Dr Singh said the valve could be of great benefit to all sufferers, as it was cheap to produce.

Various materials were tried in the construction of prototype valves, even silver, although that cost up to £400 a valve. Patients tend to be in their 50s or over, and most, up to 85 per cent, have been heavy smokers. Dr Singh said cancer of the larynx got little publicity compared with cancer of the lung, breast or colon.

That, he said, may be due to the silence of patients who, hitherto, have had their larynx removed and are "condemned to a life of silence" partly through their embarrassment.

Accused man wrote about fire murder

A brilliant fire officer accused of trying to murder his wife by causing her car to catch fire had published an article entitled *Murder by Fire*, the High Court in Edinburgh was told yesterday.

Mr Douglas Leitch, a senior Strathclyde Fire Brigade officer, disclosed that in evidence on the fourth day of the trial of Alistair Keating, aged 38, of Prestwick, Ayrshire, who denies attempting to murder his wife by interfering with the wiring in her car.

Mr Leitch told the court that Mr Keating had received prizes for the highest pass marks in technical examinations of any fire officer in Scotland. A report described his abilities as outstanding. The case continues today.

IMPORTANT AUCTION

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Including a recently discovered private collection of magnificent rugs containing several unique items of outstanding museum quality, which have been specially selected and are amongst the rarest and most important examples of Oriental weaving seen on the market for many years. This collection is a major example of silk weaving of extraordinary rarity from the area of North West Persia. Also of museum quality is a splendid leather, part-silk, vee rug, a pair of exquisite part-silk Tabrizi rugs, part silk Kashan rug and others too numerous to mention.

Amongst the Persian "Court" carpets is an extremely rare lalver Kirman, a signed blacked, a traditional Kashan medallion, all woven during the period of Mohammed Reza Shah Pahlavi.

The collection also contains fine examples of what have now become the most sought after silk pieces in the world. Being Herakle and Kayseri in small and large sizes.

The goods have now cleared customs and will be sold at:

HILTON INTERNATIONAL HOTEL KENSINGTON 179-199 HOLLAND PARK AVE LONDON W11

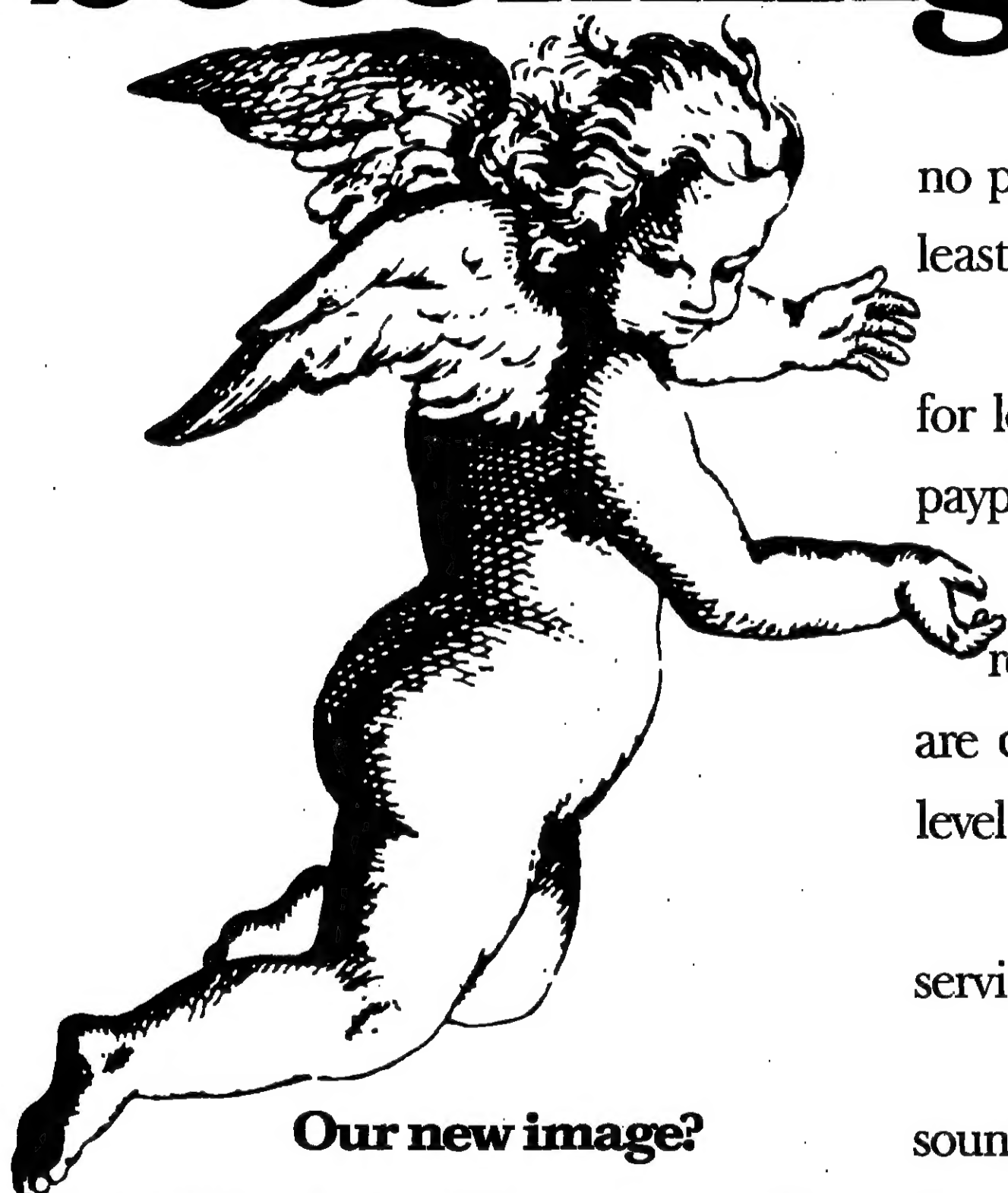
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APR 10 1988

Prices held for another year. Is there a risk of British Telecom becoming popular?



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(Before privatisation, our telephone system was neglected over the years and now needs massive renewal.)

We're replacing almost all Britain's 78,500 public payphones with more advanced vandal-resistant equipment.

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It's good news, and it means for both residential and business users that BT prices are coming down in real terms, way below the level of inflation.

(The last price increase for any of these services was in November 1986.)

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returned for
identity check

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Recruitment drive started for crown prosecutors

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

A big recruitment drive is being launched by the crown prosecution service to combat the shortage of lawyers, Sir Thomas Hetherington, Director of Public Prosecutions, said yesterday.

In the first annual report of the service he said the shortage was still the "most serious problem" the service faced.

It was particularly acute in London where only about 50 per cent of lawyer posts are filled; and in some of the surrounding areas, as well as some areas of the country further afield.

"One of the most urgent needs therefore for the forthcoming year is to make strenuous efforts to create conditions which will attract a substantial number of recruits in these areas", he said.

It has not been possible to recruit all the lawyers needed "overnight", he says. Because of the time taken to find suitable lawyers against the national shortage, many areas have had to work with fewer lawyers than they need.

"As a result those staff in post have suffered severe strain. We have incurred considerable extra cost (for example through the extensive use of agents) and the quality of work has sometimes been lower than we would have wished."

Although every effort is being made to increase recruitment and some areas have almost all posts filled, the net monthly increase is such that it will be "some time" before the deficiencies of the worst affected areas are resolved, he says.

The problem of a shortage of lawyers applied not only to the crown prosecution service but also generally to employment in the government legal service, he added.

But it was a problem that was particularly significant to the crown prosecution service because of its need to fill large numbers of new posts in areas where there were few if any potential prosecutors already working in the public sector.

Sir Thomas also admits to other early problems of the new service, which came fully into being last October. "It is not possible to set up a new government department in the brief time which could be allowed to us without some problems."

There was inadequate time to plan and test systems before it went live; insufficient staff to man the service and unforeseen demands on the service by taking on new work.

Some areas of work such as that arising from the mass of road traffic and other minor prosecutions had either not been anticipated or their impact had been underestimated.

Body will be exhumed for identity check

The Greek authorities have agreed that the body believed to be that of a Briton who jumped from a ship taking him for trial can be exhumed.

The Foreign Office asked Greece to exhumate the body of Alan Wild, aged 25, of Primrose Valley Road, Filly, North Yorkshire, for proper identification to satisfy his family.

Mr Wild had been charged with smuggling video equipment, but jumped from a boat between Kos and Rhodes as he was being taken for trial.

He was identified from clothing and buried quickly. But his father, Mr Edmund Wild, a college lecturer, says there are reports that the man was not his son.

Mr Wild, aged 55, said yesterday: "Apart from the problem of identification there is also the question of cause of death."

Holiday plea to avoid blood scarcity

The National Blood Transfusion Service has appealed to blood donors to give blood before they go on holiday to ease shortages which have led to cancelled operations in London (Our Social Services Correspondent writes).

The south London transfusion service, based at St George's Hospital, Tooting, said yesterday that a shortage over recent months had been exacerbated by people going on holiday and others failing to turn up for appointments.

"There has been a chronic shortage across the country for some time and we now have an estimated five to 10 per cent shortfall", a spokesman said. Some people wrongly thought they could catch Aids from giving blood.

St Thomas's Hospital recently had to cancel operations because of the blood shortage.

Boy aged nine sets new A level record



John Adams, aged nine, who has just passed a mathematics A level, enjoying his success yesterday (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

By Sarah Thompson
Education Reporter

John Adams, aged nine, has beaten another mathematics prodigy, Ruth Lawrence, by three months to become the youngest person to pass an A level.

However he may find Oxford, the university where he went on to study, unwilling to accept him as a student until he is much older.

The university said yesterday on hearing that the boy, born in December 1978, achieved a grade C in pure mathematics A level. "We would prefer him to enjoy a few more years of football and End Bliton before he tries the Oxford entrance exam."

Ruth Lawrence was only three months older than John Adams when she took her mathematics A level, but she achieved grade A and is now studying for a doctorate in philosophy at Oxford.

John Adams' father, Mr Ken Adams, said yesterday that given the difference in maturity between boys and girls, his son might well have gained grade A had he been a girl.

Miss Anne Lonsdale, the university spokeswoman, said: "The really astonishing thing about Ruth Lawrence was that she not only passed our entrance exam but actually did far better in it than anyone else."

"This young man may not have that kind of genius and tutors here would feel that it's better to keep him with his own age group. It's good, for example, that he is going to school with his own peers."

The Associated Examining Board spared no expense in arranging a press conference at the Science Museum yesterday at which the boy opened an envelope containing his results, marked "Confidential - John Adams". Mr Adams, aged 47, who is a mathematics teacher, said: "We haven't pushed him at all. It's John who does the pushing."

If the boy continues to develop as a mathematician he will take A levels in

further mathematics and applied mathematics and may apply to Oxford when he is aged 13.

He sat both three-hour papers in his Pure Mathematics A level at Melton Mowbray College of Further Education where a small table and chair had to be supplied.

He found the first paper "a bit easy" so he left 40 minutes early; paper 2 was slightly more demanding and John left only 15 minutes early.

"The papers weren't that hard", he said. "It's interesting to work out the problems. I like all sorts of maths except co-ordinate geometry - I don't know why, I just don't like it."

Zeebrugge hearing

Captain's fate still in doubt

By David Sapped

The future of Captain David Lewry, master of the Herald of Free Enterprise on the night she capsized with the loss of almost 200 lives, remained in the balance yesterday after Townsend Thoresen postponed a disciplinary hearing that could lead to his dismissal.

Management officials are awaiting a decision by Captain Lewry's legal advisers on whether to appeal against last month's ruling by the official inquiry into the Zeebrugge tragedy that his certificate of competency should be suspended for a year.

Any appeal would be lodged at the High Court in London next week.

Captain Lewry left Townsend Thoresen's Dover headquarters with his wife, Patricia, refusing to discuss the two-hour hearing which had centred on procedural matters.

The merchant seamen's officers' union, Numsa, maintains that under the disciplinary code, specific charges have to be made. So far, Townsend Thoresen has only told Captain Lewry by letter that in view of the findings of Mr Justice Sheen's inquiry, "we have to consider your future with the company and whether that should be terminated". The management team, led by the deputy

managing director, Mr Leslie Stephenson, agreed to consider the points and to defer the hearing until after the outcome of any appeal.

Mr Bill Harrison, Numsa district organizer, attended the hearing with Captain Lewry.

Asked whether he believed Townsend Thoresen wanted to dismiss Captain Lewry, Mr Harrison replied: "I believed it when we went into the hearing - nothing has changed."

However, Captain Lewry's solicitor, Mr Martin Sutton, said the decision to defer the hearing meant there was "a glimmer of hope".

Banks urged to inform customers of charges

By Robin Young

The way customers are charged for services provided by banks is unclear and unsatisfactory, the National Consumer Council says today in a response to the Banking Review Committee's consultation paper on banker-customer relationships.

The council says that generally customers are well satisfied with their banks, but it criticizes the way in which banks charge customers first and tell them about it afterwards.

Banks should tell their customers exactly how charges are calculated and statements should show what interest rates are charged on overdrafts, whether agreed or unauthorized.

The council also recommends that model contracts which it would like to see issued by banks should tell customers about the main rights and obligations governing personal accounts, procedures for resolving disputes and errors, and the bank's practice on references.

The council would also end the legal duty on bank customers to check their bank statements for accuracy, arguing that the onus should be on the banks to get their figures right.

Banker-Customer Relations (National Consumer Council, 20 Grosvenor Gardens, London, SW1W 0DH; £2.50 inc p&p).

Frozen semen success in saving bird species

By Andrew Morgan

Ornithology experts yesterday heralded the birth of the first peregrine falcon from frozen semen at London Zoo and predicted the technique could help other endangered species.

The falcon, called Omar, was born two months ago after Dr Jamie Samour, a research fellow at the Institute of Zoology, took semen from a falcon named Junior and diluted it with a secret solution before freezing it at minus 196 degrees Centigrade.

Several successful artificial inseminations with fresh semen have been carried out, notably on the Mauritius kestrel. Dr Samour's experiments, which he first tried last year on the common buzzard, mean that frozen semen could be used wherever endangered pairs become separated.

One example is Spix's macaw, of which only three remain in the wild in Brazil. Others are in private collections and zoos. Transporting frozen semen for injection could be used for breeding programmes where the birds were not mating naturally.

In the US, the remaining 20 California condors are all in captivity. They have bred only once in captivity and Dr Samour's technique might

benefit them. It might also assist the New Zealand parrot, the kakapo, of which only 30 specimens survive.

Mr David Jeggo, curator of birds at Jersey Zoo, said the technique could be used on the Mauritius kestrel, of which there is only one in captivity, and the Philippine eagle, which is close to extinction.

Jersey Zoo has been involved since 1982 with the Mauritius kestrel and pink pigeon breeding programmes. They have encountered the common problem of captive breeding - the difficulty of returning birds to the wild.

Mr Jeggo said: "This is certainly an exciting prospect and it may be possible to apply it to British endangered species, like the white-tailed sea eagle and the honey buzzard."

Mr Michael Rands, director of the International Council of Bird Preservation, said the freezing technique could overcome the problem of zoos being cautious about sending birds all over the world. "Export and import regulations often make it difficult to transport birds and their value makes some organizations reluctant to move them."

Some experts are uncertain if the technique can be used on other birds.

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Best fruit value comes from abroad

Not only holidaymakers are yearning for sunshine. Tomato growers are impatient for warmth to ripen their bountiful green crop.

The bulk of our first main dessert apple, the Discovery, is staying on the trees a week longer than expected to ensure plenty of juicy, red-flushed fruit by the end of the month.

"In volume terms the crop is up on last year despite the bad weather", Home Grown Fruits, the country's leading top fruit co-operative, said yesterday. "Warmer, sunnier conditions would have meant quantities in the shops by now but we shall catch up by the Bank holiday."

No significant fall in Discovery prices is expected from the current 45p to 55p a

pound but they should ease as the season progresses.

This week's best fruit buys continue to be imported. Spanish honeydew melons are 35p to £1.10 each, Cyprus sultana grapes 65p to 90p a pound, peaches 10p to 18p and nectarines 10p to 25p.

New Zealand kiwifruit, especially rich in vitamin C, are abundant at 15p to 25p each. A dry growing season in New Zealand has produced a crop of superb quality and we shall receive 47 million kiwifruit this season, compared with 29 million last year.

Best vegetables are cabbages such as Primo and Hiski, 20p to 30p a pound or Savoy at 25p to 35p. Good cauliflowers are 35p to 50p each but stick beans are slow to appear and

may cost 90p to £1.20 a pound.

Iceberg lettuces suffering from too much rain are dearer at 60p to 90p each. Round lettuce remains at 18p to 28p. Tomatoes are up a few pence at 45p to 75p a pound.

As purchases of chicken to eat in the home continue to rise, butchers are battling to arrest any decline in red meat sales, trimming the meat as well as the price.

Cut-price offers on beef this week include rump steak at £2.58 a pound at Sainsbury, braising steak at £1.58 a pound at Tesco, topside or silverside at £1.86 a pound at Asda. Some stores are pepping up steak sales with a pungent coating of crushed black peppercorns.

English lamb prices fluctuate widely around the national average of £1.82 a pound for legs and £1.12 a pound for shoulders.

There has been little movement on fish prices. Haddock at £1.50 a pound is recommended by many retailers. But the national best buy is plaice either whole or filleted, the average for fillets being £2.11 a pound.

Billingsgate reports daily arrivals of oysters from France, plenty of crabs, prawns, shrimps and cockles. A tasty recommendation is to combine with a platter of shellfish some smoked fish such as mackerel fillets, about £1.20 a pound, or cod's roe, at £1.20 a quarter pound.

Sky dive inquest told of boasts

By Paul Eastham

A disabled student boasted to colleagues he had spent eight years in The Parachute Regiment yet in reality he had no previous experience when he died on his first jump, his father told an inquest yesterday.

Separate inquests were opened and adjourned into the deaths last Sunday of two novice parachutists who jumped for charity.

They were Mr Adrian Rees, aged 31, of Sowerby Bridge, Halifax, West Yorkshire, and Miss Paula Goodayle, aged 21, of Neutledale, Maidstone, Kent.

Mr Rees told other students at Portland Training College for the Disabled, Mansfield, that he was a hardened parachutist. He plunged 2,300 feet to his death watched by hundreds at Langar airfield, Nottinghamshire, when his parachute failed to open.

Mr Rees had received special training and a medical check before the jump for which he hoped to raise £200 for leisure facilities for fellow students. The leap was supervised by the British Parachute Association, which is investigating the death.

Mr John Langham, the coroner, adjourned the inquest pending police reports.

Three full-time parachutists yesterday cancelled their charity jump at Langar airfield due next Monday.

One, Mr Malcolm Lodge, said: "The death of Mr Rees convinced us all that we could not guarantee our 100 per cent safety. Our wives are very relieved."

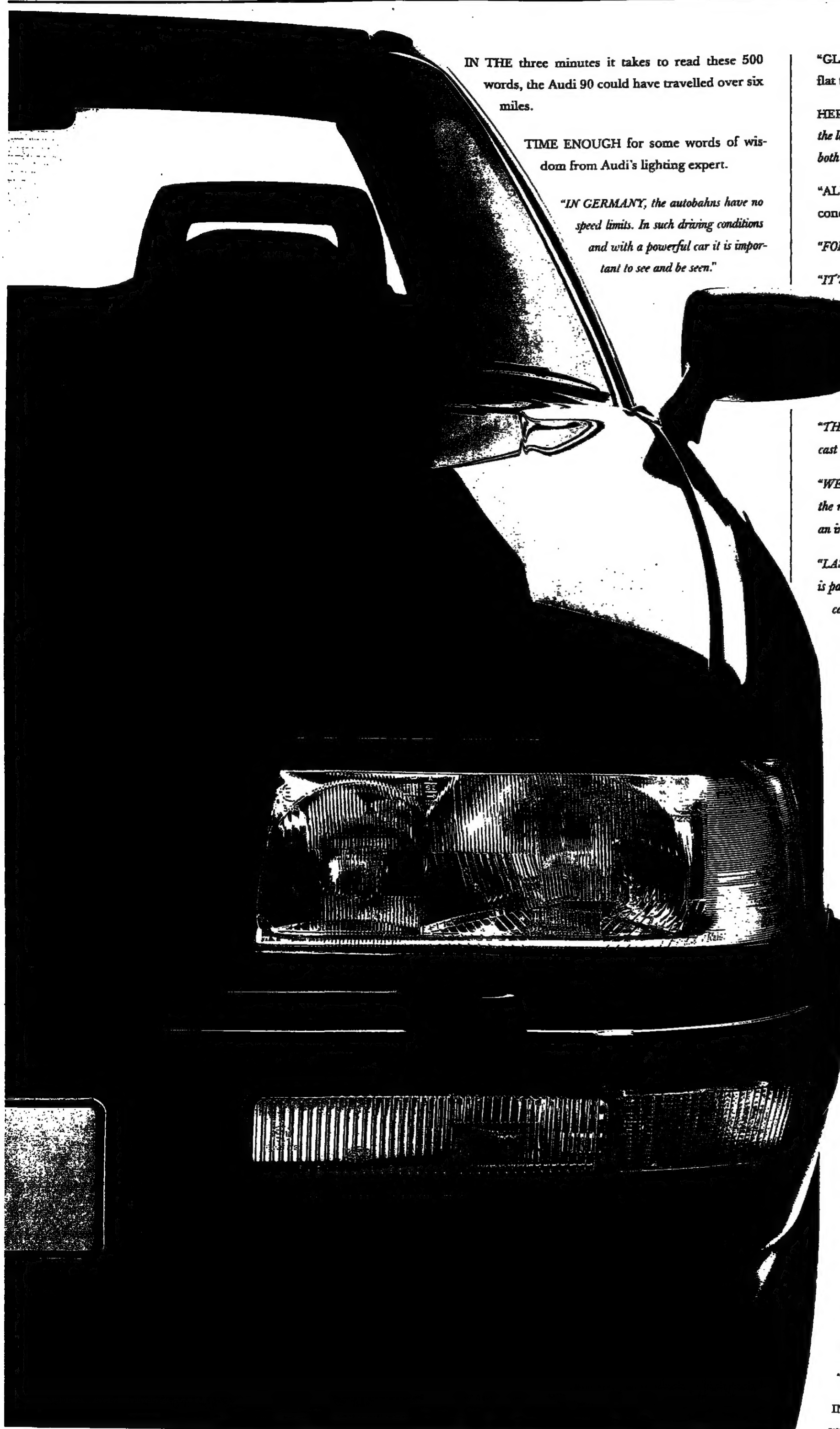
Meanwhile, another inquest was told that Miss Goodayle who died on her first jump by landing on whirling helicopter blades was identified by her short dark hair, colouring, dental records and jewellery.

PC Ian Joslin told the hearing at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester that her remains were identified by her parachute instructor, Mr Kenneth Townsend of Thruxton Parachute Club, near Andover, Hampshire.

Group Captain Anthony Balfour, of the RAF Hospital, Buckinghamshire, who conducted the post-mortem examination reported she died of multiple injuries consistent with an aircraft accident.

None of Miss Goodayle's relatives attended the hearing, which was adjourned by Mr Tim Mulligan, Mid-Hampshire coroner, to a date to be fixed.

THE AUDI 90 CAN TRAVEL AT 187.7ft PER SECOND. HERR MANG PUTS IT DOWN TO A 20% IMPROVEMENT IN LUMINOSITY.



IN THE three minutes it takes to read these 500 words, the Audi 90 could have travelled over six miles.

TIME ENOUGH for some words of wisdom from Audi's lighting expert.

"IN GERMANY, the autobahns have no speed limits. In such driving conditions and with a powerful car it is important to see and be seen."

"GLARINGLY OBVIOUS," we said. The joke went down like a flat tyre.

HERR MANG pretended he hadn't heard us: "With the Audi 90, the large lenses help project 20% more light on to the road, both on dipped and main beams."



"ALL VERY well on a clear night, but what about poor driving conditions?" we asked.

"FOR ELEMENTS such as the fog lights we use ellipsoid technology.

"IT'S VASTLY superior to existing methods and minimizes the reflected dazzle off rain, fog and falling snow.

"AT THE same time it provides the driver with a beam of light with increased width and length for greater visibility."

HERR MANG was warming to his task.

"THE ELLIPSOID replaces the paraboloid reflector previously used to cast light on to the road.

"WE THEN added a screen which allows precisely defined cut-offs to give the required lighting effect. It can provide high sharpness, for instance, or an intentional lack of sharpness.

"LASTLY, THE lens is of heat treated, pressed glass and particular attention is paid to high surface quality to prevent light being deflected upward and causing glare to oncoming traffic.

"I WILL make it simple. If the old lights used a prism to direct light in the desired pattern, the ellipsoid uses a lens to focus it precisely. It's rather like a cinema projector."

EVEN WITH our limited technical knowledge, it was kind of Herr Mang not to keep us in the dark. But we had more questions.

"THAT'S FINE if we can see the 90 coming towards us, but what about traffic approaching from side roads or following behind?"

JUST AS we thought we'd put Herr Mang under an uncomfortable spotlight, we found otherwise.

"THE TURN signals are mounted within the front bumper and are big enough to be easily visible from the side as well as the front.

"THE NEW tail lights are also bigger. The light clusters form a continuous line with the number plate and, as an additional safety measure, are set high enough to escape damage in light impacts.

"AS YOU can see," added Herr Mang, "everything we do must be seen in the overall context of the 90's design.

"WITH THE headlights, for example, we bonded the light units and lenses together, but kept the reflectors adjustable inside the housing.

"THIS ARRANGEMENT keeps the headlight lenses flush with the body, regardless of the reflector setting. Therefore, you can adjust the headlights without moving the total unit, so aerodynamics are not affected."

"WHICH PRESUMABLY helps the car travel at 187.7ft per second," we mused.

"EXACTLY."

IN THE time it had taken the Audi to travel over six miles, we'd come full circle.

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Lord's
Spyca

السلامة

Spycatcher ban necessary to protect public interest

Attorney General v The Observer Ltd and Others

Attorney General v Guardian Newspapers Ltd and Others

Attorney General v Times Newspapers Ltd and Others

Before Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Templeman, Lord Ackner and Lord Oliver of Aylmerton

[Speeches August 13]

The public interest in maintaining the efficiency of the security service, and the continuation of temporary injunctions restraining newspapers from disclosing or publishing information from Mr Peter Wright's book *Spycatcher*, notwithstanding that copies of the book were circulating in this country.

To have discharged the injunctions would have caused greater injustice to the Attorney General, who was acting in the public interest, than the continuation of them until trial would be capable of causing the newspapers involved.

The House of Lords so held, Lord Bridge and Lord Oliver dissenting, in stating their reasons for upholding on July 30 the decision of the Court of Appeal (Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Russell; *The Times* July 25) allowing an appeal by the Attorney General against a decision of Sir Nicholas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, discharging interlocutory injunctions against *The Observer*, *The Guardian* and *The Sunday Times*.

Mr Charles Gray, QC and Mr Desmond Browne, for the Attorney General; Mr Charles Gray, QC and Mr Stephen Nathan for the Observer; Mr Anthony Lester, QC and Mr David Pannick for the Sunday Times; Mr John Mummery and Mr Philip Havers for the Attorney General.

LORD BRIDGE said that he had written his opinion in wholly exceptional circumstances. On 20 June their Lordships had announced their decision by a majority of three to two to maintain in full force the injunctions granted by Mr Justice Millett and affirmed by the Court of Appeal (Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Russell; *The Times* July 25) against publication of Mr Wright's *Spycatcher* and to extend the scope of the injunctions to cover reports on the proceedings now current in Australia against Mr Wright and his publishers there.

The proceedings arose from an application to discharge the Millett injunctions. There was no doubt that they were properly granted in the first place. As the law now stood, they operated as a universal ban on any publication within the jurisdiction of anything which would contravene the injunctions. His Lordship attached little importance, as relevant changes of circumstances, to the partial disclosures of the *Spycatcher* allegations which some newspapers had succeeded in making.

The watershed came with the publication of *Spycatcher* in the United States of America. Her Majesty's Government did not attempt to stop this because they knew they would fail. They had also announced that they would not attempt to prevent the importation of *Spycatcher* into this country. Those two vital facts set the scene for the present controversy.

The Court of Appeal had favoured a variation of the injunctions with the introduction of a new proviso to permit publication of "a summary in very general terms" of the *Spycatcher* allegations.

Before their Lordships all parties accepted that the compromise solution favoured by the Court of Appeal could not be supported in law and would be unworkable in practice. There was no escape by way of compromise from the need to resolve the issue. The injunctions had either to be maintained or discharged.

It was appreciated that the real question raised by the appeals was whether the Attorney General, on the relevant and undisputed facts, could sustain a claim for permanent injunctions. If no case for permanent injunctions could be made out, it would be absurd to keep the interim injunctions in force.

Consequently, although a trial of the action would, at least theoretically, leave the door open for fresh evidence and arguments before their Lordships in the appeal and, of course, to adduce fresh evidence and arguments in practice, the decision of the present appeal would effectively foreclose the options open to the trial judge.

The basis of the claim for the Millett injunctions was to prevent the disclosure of secret material of the intelligence or security services from following Mr Wright's deplorable example. The suggestion had to be that a future Mr Wright contemplating going into exile and publishing his memoirs in the United States and who would not be deterred by the prospect of having to account to the Government for his profits, would nevertheless be deterred by the knowledge he would be denied by injunction any more than a limited access for his story to the general reading public in this country.

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Opinion poll reveals last-minute drop in support for Lange

From Richard Long, Wellington

New Zealand's election campaign entered its final stages yesterday with the latest opinion poll showing a dramatic narrowing of the Government's lead.

The margin was put at only 4.3 per cent by the Radio New Zealand-National Business Review poll, continuing the decline of recent weeks from the 13 per cent margin of six weeks ago.

Rumours swept the marketplace that another leading opinion poll, Heylen, had detected an even narrower margin in last-minute sampling, but that is not to be disclosed until after the polls close on Saturday night. Heylen confirmed the secret poll but declined to release the results, saying it had a policy of not publishing so close to the election.

Political commentators pointed out that the reduced margin in the poll last week indicated that the Government would have a negligible lead on polling day if the trend continued. Until now the campaign has been fought, out amid expectations of a comfortable Labour victory.

Both Mr Lange and Mr Jim Bolger, the Opposition National Party leader, spent the final day campaigning in Auckland, New Zealand's largest city. Little campaigning is undertaken today as an election news blackout comes into force at midnight.

Mr Bolger addressed a final rally of 4,000 at Auckland.

confidently predicting a 51-46 election result, which would give a five-seat majority to his National Party.

Mr Lange, whose governing Labour Party has a 15-seat majority, predicted the loss of some government seats, but a workable majority of five to seven seats.

As the election campaign wound to a climax yesterday,



Mr Roger Douglas, the Finance Minister and architect of the economic reforms which have opened up the New Zealand economy over the past three years, campaigned on a beer crate in the Auckland electorate of Remuera. While previously the safest of safe Tory seats, polls show that Remuera is now within a whisker of falling to Labour because of the widespread backing among Tory voters for Mr Douglas's reformist economic policies.

The Labour candidate, a political unknown, is receiving 47 per cent support compared to 49 per cent for Mr

Doug Graham, who is a National MP and junior spokesman on finance.

Mr Douglas then went on to accompany Mr Lange to a lunch attended by around 50 of New Zealand's most influential businessmen. While Mr Bolger received a polite but strained hearing from the business leaders last week, Mr Lange and Mr Douglas were received with approbation when they pledged that the path of economic reform would continue.

Mr Lange said his Government had been forced by the financial crisis which accompanied its election to power in July 1984 to take a course which under normal circumstances would have meant political suicide. The result was a fundamental change in New Zealand society. But the course had been set, the strategy was plain and the Government would persist.

Having made reforms in public sector businesses, by privatizing state-owned trading enterprises and selling off shares in government assets, the Government would now turn its attention to the social services to make them more efficient and effective, he said.

Mr Douglas emphasized that reform of the social services would be a priority of a re-elected Labour Government. New Zealand was not going to be another heartless America or a Britain which did not care about unemployment, he said.

Facelift for a 3,000-year-old priestess



The head of the 3,000-year-old mummified body of Houtatou, a Theban priestess, being made ready for public display in Cairo after being locked away for seven years on the orders of the late President Sadat of Egypt.

Houtatou was among 26 mummies removed from display at the Egyptian Museum after President Sadat said it was inappropriate for Egypt's ancient rulers to be viewed by the public (Reuter reports

from Cairo). He wanted the corpses to be reburied in their original tombs at Luxor. But there was a risk that they would be destroyed so they remained in Cairo.

Resting in a sealed glass case in the Egyptian Museum, Houtatou stares out of a scarred face through eyes with obsidian pupils and whites of ivory. Her leathery features are framed with long, spiral strands of artificial hair which twist around her neck like black snakes.

Houtatou got a special facelift to restore her round face, according to Mr Nasr Iskander, in charge of conservation.

He said that embalmers made changes in the mummification process "because they wanted to keep her as the beautiful woman she was before her death". Despite reservations by some scholars, Houtatou will be there for all to see when the "mummy room" reopens in October.

Poland grounds Soviet planes

Warsaw (Reuters) — Poland's state airline LOT refused to ground its Soviet-built IL-62M passenger planes for extensive maintenance and fill the gap by leasing an American airliner.

The LOT general manager, Mr Jerzy Slowinski, said a US-built DC-8 was being chartered from a company based in Miami, Florida, which will supply the flight crew and guarantee maintenance.

The decision followed the worst disaster in Polish aviation history, in which all 183 people aboard one of the airline's seven IL-62Ms died in a crash outside Warsaw last May.

All but one of the Soviet planes will be temporarily withdrawn from service starting next Monday, and LOT hopes to use the DC-8 on its flights to the US and Canada.

Killing denied

Lisbon (Reuters) — Mozambican Renamo rebels denied massacring at least 70 people in the town of Manjacaze in southern Mozambique, as reported by the official Mozambican news agency on Wednesday.

Crash cause

Mexico City (AP) — A cargo plane that crashed on a busy highway last month, killing 43 people, was unable to gain enough altitude because of a mechanical failure in its landing gear, according to a preliminary investigation.

Going home

Sondrio (Reuters) — About 1,200 villagers, moved from their homes in Cepina and two nearby hamlets, after a huge landslide in Italy's flood-hit Adda valley, have been allowed to return after tests showed the villages were no longer at risk.

In memoriam

Moscow (Reuters) — Soviet workers laid the cornerstone of an obelisk at Dnub Cape, near the Black Sea port of Novorossiysk, in memory of 400 people who died when the liner Admiral Nakhimov sank sea after collision with a cargo ship a year ago.

Steward better

Geneva (Reuters) — M Jean-Pierre Elouma, 45, a Congolese steward shot in the abdomen while overpowering the hijacker of an Air Afrique airliner here three weeks ago, has left hospital.

Muscle out

Burnaby, British Columbia (Reuters) — Three Bulgarian wrestlers who disappeared here three days ago during an international championship have asked for political asylum in Canada.

Geared down

Berlin Borough, New Jersey (AP) — Three bank robbers stole \$1,410, hopped into their getaway car, and were caught by police after a slow-speed chase. The car stuck in first gear.

Nato's next Secretary-General Jockeying starts for Carrington's job

From Frederick Bonhart, Brussels

Half of Nato's senior officials are away on distant beaches, and there are no regular North Atlantic Council meetings. But there are undercurrents disturbing the apparent calm: the race is on to be successor to Lord Carrington, the Secretary-General.

When he took on the post, Lord Carrington made it clear that he would stay for only four years. If, then, he leaves in June next year, the decision on his successor will have to be taken at the council meeting this December.

The incumbent must be eminent, normally a former Cabinet minister

The selection process is cumbersome. As Nato is not a supra-national organization, decisions have to be agreed by all 16 member countries. This, indeed, is one of the most important tasks of the Secretary-General, who must be able to exert sufficient influence to get ministers to reach a consensus even when it may not be in the immediate interests of their own coun-

tries. So the incumbent must be an eminent personality, normally a former Cabinet minister, with a good working knowledge of English and French. Finally, candidates must be proposed by their own governments.

The post is one of a handful of top international appointments; the salary is negotiated individually and is closely guarded. With it goes an elegant house in Brussels, an armoured-plate Mercedes and a heavy security guard.

Certain countries are automatically eliminated. Britain could not have it again immediately, and the United States already supplies two of the three supreme military commanders, Europe and Atlantic, France and Spain, both outside Nato's military structure, nor can Iceland, which has no military forces at all. In view of the contentious position Greece and Turkey have taken towards each other, they must also abstain, and Luxembourg is too small.

The names of five possible starters are mentioned in high places, but objections could be raised against them all. Herr

Manfred Wörner, the West German Minister of Defence, is a strong contender since a German has not so far held the post and Bonn is the main contributor to the Alliance in Europe. He is, however, considered somewhat rigid in his views.

And there could be another impediment — Herr Martin Bangemann, the Economics Minister of West Germany, is a possible candidate for the post of President of the EEC Commission, which also falls vacant next year, and it is

With the job come an elegant Brussels house and an armoured-plate Mercedes

thought unlikely that West Germany could have two such posts simultaneously.

With Norway outside the EEC, this objection does not apply to Mr Kaare Willoch, Norway's prime minister from 1981 to 1986 and now chairman of the parliamentary Foreign Relations Committee. He is understood to be very keen and is strongly backed by

Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, the Prime Minister, who is expected shortly to make the candidature official. There has not been a Norwegian Secretary-General so far, perhaps because, like Denmark, Norway does not allow nuclear weapons or foreign forces on its soil in peacetime, and this could be an objection.

Italy is fully qualified, but most of the potential candidates do not speak adequate English. Signor Rinaldo Ossola, the Italian Ambassador to Washington, does and, as a former Nato deputy secretary-general, he knows the business well. He wants the post, but has never been a minister and so may not receive enough backing.

Belgium's case is weak, as it has been seriously falling behind in its defence commitments. Nevertheless, the Foreign Minister, Mr Leo Tindemans, is an old Nato hand, and was in the running the last time round.

Such an objection would not apply to another Belgian, Viscount Etienne Davignon, who is a complete outsider, having never been a minister

Delhi pledges relentless war against terror and poverty

From Gavin Bell, Delhi

Indian leaders vowed to wage "a relentless war" against terrorism and poverty, in speeches yesterday commemorating the fortieth anniversary of independence.

President Venkatarman appealed for an end to the "massacre of innocents" in an emotional address in Parliament before members of India's original Constituent Assembly and veterans of the independence movement.

"Terrorism has hit out at simple men, women and children... the nation's conscience mourns the homes that have been shattered by what can only be called the massacre of innocents."

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister, drew applause when he condemned extremist violence and said: "We shall never be cowed by terrorism. We shall not let our country become a hostage to cowardly killers." He added: "We rededicate ourselves to preserving our hard-won freedom and waging relentless war on poverty, on prejudice and superstition, on fanaticism and violence, and on all forms of oppression and

discrimination."

The pledge to crack down on communal violence was clearly directed at Sikh extremists who have been waging a bloody separatist campaign in Punjab. Indian and Western intelligence sources said yesterday that 14 Sikh militants from Canada, Britain and Pakistan were known to have entered the country last month, along with a

Karachi — Pakistan is celebrating its independence amid rumblings of a distant war that threatens to engulf the country (Zahid Hussain writes).

Bombs in Karachi, Lahore and Mardan in the North West Frontier Province signal the spilling over of the war in Afghanistan into Pakistan.

quantity of arms and explosives. They said security around Indian leaders had been strengthened, in anticipation of a terrorist attack.

Since Wednesday terrorists have killed seven policemen in Punjab, including four who had been guarding the home of a prominent newspaper editor. Fireworks displays in

the national and state capitals have been cancelled. Evidently security was the main consideration.

When Mr Gandhi addressed the nation from the ramparts of the 17th-century Red Fort in Delhi tomorrow, he will be wearing a bullet-proof vest, as will most of his entourage.

The Prime Minister said yesterday that the other challenge facing India was a drought affecting large parts of the country. "Severe as it is, we are prepared. We have built a strong and resilient economy. We will ensure employment, drinking water and food to the rural poor, markets for rural craftsmen and fodder for our cattle."

In an interview yesterday, Mr Gandhi also replied to mounting criticism of his Government, notably illegal "commissions" said to have been paid in a \$1.3 billion (823 million) defence contract. He said he had nothing to be ashamed of, and had "nothing to hide, nothing to fear". The strategy of those ranged against him was to negate the verdict of the ballot box through a campaign based on rumours or untruths.

Ban on Spycatcher necessary to protect the public interest

Continued from page 7

not above the Law, although like some other powerful organisations, they would like that to be so, that is, until they require the Law's protection.

Lord Bridge, in the course of argument asked the question which he considered to be crucial: "Is there any irreparable harm that Mr Wright has not done yet?" His Lordship would answer that question with an emphatic "yes". It was, of course, abundantly clear that the injunctions were no longer effective to safeguard any national secrets that the book might contain. They are indeed "out of the bag" but from that it did not follow that the function of the injunctions was spent.

The recent crescendo of protestations in the press proved that there was all the difference in the world between tolerating the importation of casual copies, as opposed to the mass circulation of the material contained in the book, which the newspapers and the media were so bent upon achieving.

There are at least three answers to the suggestion that an action for an account of profits would be an adequate remedy. Firstly, their Lordships know not whether such a remedy can be obtained in Australia or Canada or elsewhere where this book may be published with the possible exception of America.

Secondly, the practical problems of enforceability may indeed be very great, particularly in cases where the author has spent his profits and the publishers have disposed of them in some way or another.

However, most important of all, profit may not have been the motivation for the publication. An ex-employee of the Service may be embittered or unbalanced, may publish his memoirs out of spite to embarrass his superiors, to mount some eccentric campaign or publish for any number of other reasons.

Dealing with the removal of the proviso in Mr Justice Millett's order relative to ma-

terial disclosed in the Australian Courts there had been an orchestrated and sustained attempt to achieve a situation from which the courts would be powerless to exercise their undoubted jurisdiction to prevent or even limit these serious breaches of confidentiality and the resultant prejudice to the efficiency of the British Security Service.

It was a fact of life, however regrettable, that there were elements in the press as a whole which not only lacked responsibility, but integrity. A very recent example, in support of a general example, it would have been absurd and naive of their Lordships not to have appreciated that every attempt would inevitably have been made to frustrate their orders.

LORD OLIVER said that there could hardly have been a clearer or more flagrant breach of Mr Wright's obligation on confidentiality.

At the outset, there had to be borne in mind a factor of critical importance. The appellants before the House were *The Observer* and *The Guardian*, *The Sunday Times*, which was affected by the injunctions as a result of contempt proceedings, had appeared and argued in support of their appeal. It may be that their Lordships did not know — in some special position as a result of the purchase, in circumstances of which he knew nothing, of some rights in Mr Wright's or his publishers' copyright in the book.

But the injunctions, whilst they no doubt affected other newspapers and other organs of the news media, were injunctions against the appellants and it was with their position that the House was primarily concerned.

It had therefore to be kept clearly in mind that the appellants have done and were proposing to do nothing which was not normally involved in the proper conduct of their legitimate business of collecting,

disseminating and commenting upon news which they regarded as of interest to their reading public.

It so happened that, most regrettably, a former servant of the Crown had chosen to publish that which was confided to him under an obligation of secrecy but the appellants have not themselves been party to the revelation of the confidential information to the public.

A visitor to this jurisdiction (carrying, perhaps, copies of *Spycatcher* and the *Washington Post* in his hand) might, I think pardonably, be surprised at the situation with which he is confronted on his arrival in the land which many regard as the cradle of democratic liberty.

Outside these shores he and every other member of the public could read newspaper reports of and comments on Mr Wright's memoirs. Yet *The Guardian* and *The Observer*, newspapers, and effectively the entire English press and other news media, remained prohibited from reproducing or commenting upon matters contained in a book which could be and was being obtained freely by members of the public here and which could on occasions be seen being read by travellers on the London Underground.

That was a situation which none of their Lordships could regard as anything but extremely regrettable. Where his Lordship differed from the majority was in the assessment of whether the continuation of the injunctions, perfectly rational and explicable in their origins, could now any longer be justified and whether, constitutionally and in the public interest in a free society, they ought to be permitted to continue even temporarily pending a full trial, possibly a year or more hence, of the issues raised on the pleadings in this case.

In saying this he did not underestimate the obvious importance of the public interest in protecting the Security Service. What he questioned was both the effectiveness and the appropriateness, in the circumstances as they now existed, of seeking

to do so by continuing against the appellants a fetter on disclosure of information which, for good or ill, was now freely obtainable and disclosable by other members of the public.

The arguments in favour of the continuation of interlocutory injunctive relief were threefold. First, it was said that the continuation of the injunctions will serve the purpose of sustaining the morale of the Security Service.

Secondly, it was said that although the information publication of which was sought to be restrained had become public, publicised, notorious and available virtually everywhere in the world outside England, and although it was available here to anyone sufficiently interested to seek it by buying or borrowing a copy of *Spycatcher*, that situation had been brought about by the machinations of the wrongdoers whom it is sought to restrain in the Australian action.

An English court, it was submitted, ought to be reluctant to permit its orders to be set at naught by the very people whose wrongful action gave rise to the action in which the orders were made.

Thirdly, it was argued, the injunctions sought by the Attorney General were interlocutory only. None of the information publication of which was sought to be restrained can be said to be of vital immediate moment. What real harm, it was argued, when the public has been deprived of this information for 12 years, could there be in holding up further distribution of it for a further year or two years until the action has been brought to trial?

The case was a unique one. There was a point during the argument when the skill of Mr Mummery's advocacy almost persuaded his Lordship to take the same view as the majority. Further reflection impelled me to an opposite conclusion, but he mentioned it first, in the predictable clamour aroused when your Lordships' decision was announced, it should be thought that the solution of the very difficult problems posed

came easily or obviously to any member of the House.

Taking the arguments which have been deployed in turn, that which seeks to justify the continuation of the injunctions on what one may call the Admiral Byng principle, "pour encourager les autres," was less than convincing as a matter of fact, but more remedy against these appellants.

The morale effect within the Service was the only aspect of the damage to the Service envisaged in the evidence before Millett J, which could still have any relevance.

So far as an injunction against the English press, whether permanent or temporary, might act as a deterrent to other members of the Service, its frailty was demonstrable and had already been demonstrated by the obvious ease with which publication may be brought about in other parts of the world.

Moreover, the deterrent effect of proceedings for an account of profits remained and the determination with which the present claim had been pursued against Mr Wright should be ample demonstration that the path of the would-be publisher of confidences would not be easy.

As to the insecurity which may be felt by existing members of the Service, the fact was that, whether or not the news media here could be restrained from publishing allegations by their fellow members, the free availability of the book in this country demonstrated the continued existence of that risk.

When allegations, however unfair and possibly untrue had already been made the subject-matter of extensive public discussion and were freely current in book form and in foreign newspapers circulating in both here and abroad, further restraint on public discussion could provide little reassurance.

But even allowing that there remained any substance in that argument, his Lordship questioned whether the imposition of an injunction on A simply in order to publish B and to

provide an example to C is a correct or permissible use of an injunctive remedy. The injunction was originally imposed in order to preserve the confidentiality of the then unpublished allegations.

That confidentiality had now, without the part of the appellants, been irrevocably destroyed and, no doubt, destroyed as a result of a calculated policy adopted by Mr Wright and those associated with him.

His Lordship could well see — and this equally applied to the second argument — that the denial to Mr Wright of the audience that he most desired to reach could provide a cogent reason why the Attorney General may wish to maintain the injunctions, but, as against these appellants, that did not constitute a proper justification for them.

It did so only if, in seeking further to publish what is already public, they could properly be said to be threatening some invasion of private law right of the Crown.

The third argument gave the greatest concern, for although it resulted in a situation which could not do anything but engender disrespect for the law, it had an appealing logic given the major premise upon which it was based, that is to say, that there remained an arguable case for the grant of permanent injunctions against the appellants at the trial. In the events which have happened his Lordship questioned that premise.

The salient feature of the instant case and one which distinguished all previous authorities, was that the persons against whom relief was sought were persons who have come upon the information sought to be protected without having been involved in any way in its wrongful publication. The justification for the imposition of a restraint upon republication by such a person must rest upon the premise that once he knew that the information was confidential and had been disclosed in breach of confidence, it would be unconscionable for him to make use of it.

Once, however, that information had been so widely disseminated that it can properly be said to be in the public domain then it ceased to be any longer confidential information.

There could not be an injunction against use or republication by the general public and it would be no longer possible to be unconscionable for a person untaught by complicity in its original publication to make use of that which is available to be made use of by everyone else, save possibly the original confidant and those who have aided and abetted him.

So far as they were concerned, his Lordship did not accept that continued availability of injunctive relief against them stood or fell with the continuation of the injunctions against these appellants.

As was pointed out in the course of the argument, the case of the Attorney General was unlikely to improve between now and the trial and the House had all the material required to determine the point.

His Lordship fully appreciated the point of the majority that the question should not now be determined without a further argument for which the trial would provide an occasion, but for his part, he found it difficult to see how, once the information has achieved such a degree of public availability and notoriety that any member of the public could legitimately possess himself of it, read it, discuss it and pass it on to others, it could be right to regard it as otherwise than in the public domain.

If that was right then it was difficult to see how it could be successfully argued that the appellants should be permanently enjoined from "disclosing to any person" (including presumably their own employees) information which had been and was being freely disclosed by members of the public to one another by selling or lending a book which was in free and open circulation.

Were we to be presented with the unedifying spectacle of a court trying the action or a

substantial part of it in camera, not for the purpose of preserving secrets of the State or anything of that nature, but simply in order to prevent the public from alleging and commenting upon allegations which were contained in a book which any member of the public was at liberty to go and buy in the market place?

We did not have a First Amendment, as Blackstone observed, the liberty of press was essential to the nature of a free state. The price that we paid was that that liberty could be and sometimes was harnessed to the carriage of liars or charlatans, but that could not be avoided if the liberty was to be preserved.

No one contended that the liberty was absolute and there were occasions when it must yield to national emergency, to considerations of national security, and, on occasion, to private law rights of confidentiality where they are not overborne by some counter-vailing public interest.

But if those privileges were to be overborne, then they must be overborne to some purpose. The argument is not perhaps much assisted by homely metaphors about empty stables or empty cages, but his Lordship could not help but feel that the House was being asked in the light of what had now occurred to beat the air and to interfere with an essential freedom for the preservation of confidentiality that had already been lost beyond recall.

Solicitors: Lovell White & King; Turner Kenneth Brown; Theodore Goddard; Treasury Solicitor.

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WORLD SUMMARY

Accusations fly as strike spreads

JOHANNESBURG — South Africa's striking black miners and their white employers traded accusations of intimidation and sabotage yesterday as sporadic violence broke out on mining properties (Nicholas Beeson writes). The giant Anglo-American Corporation, which has been hardest hit by the four-day strike, accused workers on the east Rand of numerous acts of sabotage, including releasing five tons of sulphuric acid, switching off power supplies and sabotage.

The company said there were signs that increasing numbers of workers were returning to gold and coal mines. By contrast, the secretary-general of the National Union of Mineworkers, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, said the strike was spreading. He said 10 mines and facilities had been closed in a walkout by 12,000 workers in addition to the 42 mines where the NUM says 340,000 have stopped work. The Chamber of Mines maintained that fewer than 230,000 black miners of the workforce of half-a-million were on strike yesterday.

Laos to receive US aid

BANGKOK — The United States has agreed to provide aid to Laos, believed to be similar to that promised to Vietnam two weeks ago, when special humanitarian help was offered in return for co-operation in tracing Americans missing from the Vietnam War (Neil Kelly writes).

The US Embassy in Bangkok issued a statement yesterday saying that American officials visiting Laos had reached unspecified agreements with Vietnamese and that the two sides would meet again soon to implement them.

It is unclear what those agreements are except that Laos is to resume "humanitarian co-operation" in tracing 550 Americans missing there, while the US has undertaken to respond to Laos's humanitarian problems.

Roh backs Rhodes strikers

SEOUL (Reuters) — As labour unrest spread in South Korea's smaller enterprises yesterday, Mr Roh Tae Woo, the leader of the country's ruling party, said strikers were justified in seeking higher pay and fairer treatment.

"Workers should have a fairer share of the country's economic progress," he told a news conference, saying Government policies keeping wages low must be modified. Strikes spread further yesterday through the electronics industry. Another 53 companies joined the 241 already affected.

Lyndee Rhodes — The blaze that scorched forests and crops over 50,000 acres along the east coast of Rhodes island and trapped hundreds of British holiday-makers has been put out (Mario Modiano writes).

Mr Constantine Tsagris, the agriculture under-secretary who co-ordinated the four-day battle, said yesterday: "The fire has been extinguished but we are still on the lookout since any of the smouldering pyres may suddenly be fanned into a new blaze." After an overnight lull, Rhodes was again swept by strong winds.

UK student arrested

JERUSALEM — A British student was among six people arrested outside the US Consulate in east Jerusalem yesterday during a demonstration only broken up by an Israeli police charge (Ian Murray writes). He was named by the president of Bir Zeit University as Mr Mark Miller.

The protesters were seeking the release of three Palestinians arrested in a police raid this week on a university dormitory in an apparent round-up of potential troublemakers before the scheduled reopening of the campus yesterday. It was closed by the authorities for four months after demonstrations, in one of which a student was shot dead by troops.

Potholer Island's decision

PARIS — Police and volunteer rescue teams in Grenoble are to decide today whether to continue their search for Mr Alex Pithcher, aged 17, from Manchester, who disappeared a week ago after descending into one of the biggest pot-holes in the world (Susan MacDonald writes).

A large-scale search has been in operation, both above and below ground, since the Gouffre du Berger, near Grenoble, was found. Mr Pithcher was a member of a 20-man team from a Manchester pot-holing club.

Big education fraud

HARARE — For six years Zimbabwe has been spending possibly more than 10 per cent of its education budget in paying teachers who are retired, dismissed or dead (Ian Raith writes). The *Herald*, Zimbabwe's chief daily newspaper, reported yesterday that the Ministry of Education had been paying for "hundreds, probably even more" teachers who "existed only in the criminal minds of some authorities". The fraud was discovered when the payment system was altered and cheques were made out to individual teachers, resulting in a "mountain" of returned cheques.

Soviet plan to improve harvests

From Mary Dejevsky Moscow

The Soviet leadership has approved a set of measures designed to improve scientific support services to farmers and increase crop yields.

They include financial incentives for groups and institutes which contribute to increased productivity in agriculture, and provision for the profits from innovations to be shared equally between the researchers and the farms.

The new measures, contained in a Party and Government resolution, amount to a sweeping revision of the existing relationship between the scientific world and farming in the Soviet Union.

They dovetail with provisions, already announced, for the transfer of many research institutions to a self-financing system from the beginning of next year.

The timing of the new measures, as the Soviet harvest is in full swing, suggests that, despite optimism about the size of this year's grain harvest and despite changes in the way farms are managed, the agricultural sector is still not performing as well as the leadership believes it could and should.

This year's grain harvest is being delayed, mainly because of the severe winter and cool, wet summer.

Argentina and UK in fish talks

By Andrew McEwen Diplomatic Correspondent

Efforts to reach an understanding with Argentina on avoiding incidents in disputed South Atlantic fishing waters have taken a step forward.

The second round of indirect contacts between London and Buenos Aires was completed this week when the US State Department delivered a message from Britain to Argentine representatives.

Although the content of the four messages exchanged so far has been kept secret, their scope is understood to be modest. Even a minimal understanding would be the first step since the 1982 war towards establishing a working relationship.

The contacts began in January and have moved slowly. There is some surprise that they have got this far. But both British and Argentine officials have a wish to prevent clashes along the border between Britain's 150-mile fishing zone around the Falklands and Argentine waters.

Sixteen Spanish trawlers have been licensed by the Falkland Islands to fish for the most valuable catch, squid, sold as calamaries in Spanish restaurants. The squid are frequently found in border waters, where they pose a risk of incidents.

Democrats demand accountability

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The Democrats reacted with restraint to President Reagan's speech on Wednesday, saying they were ready to put the Iran-Contra scandal "behind us". But they gave a warning that before the country could deal effectively with the future, "there must be accountability for the past".

Senator George Mitchell, of Maine, voiced his party's reaction immediately after the President's television address, in which he accepted ultimate responsibility for the scandal and admitted that he had been "stubborn in my pursuit of a policy that went astray".

Senator Mitchell, who was one of the most incisive members of the congressional investigating panel, did not challenge what Mr Reagan said about the affair.

But he emphasized the President's "serious mistakes", noting that he had personally approved the sale of weapons to Iran — "a mistake so grave that Americans now risk their lives in that region face the terrible possibility of attack by a nation we helped arm".

He said Mr Reagan "approved in writing the exchange of arms for hostages," which left "our policy against terrorism in ruins" and as many hostages now as when the initiative began.

He added: "Mistakes were made not only in the execution of policies. Major mistakes were the policies themselves, and the policies were the President's." But, looking to the future, he said: "There's much to be done together."

He praised Mr Reagan's arms control efforts and the peace plan for Central America, but not his call for a balanced budget amendment. He talked about planned reforms in health and social services and other bills, ranging from civil rights to trade, and said: "In these efforts, we want to work with the President in a spirit of mutual trust."

In his 18-minute address, delivered with firmness and dignity, President Reagan said he respected the American people too much to make excuses for the Iran-Contra affair. "There's nothing I can say that will make the situation right," he said there

were times when he was "mad as a hornet" over the affair. "Just look at the damage that has been done."

He insisted again that he knew nothing of the diversion of funds from the Iran arms profits to the Nicaraguan Contras, and firmly rebuked Rear-Admiral John Poindexter, his former National Security Adviser, by saying no operation was so secret that it should be kept from the Commander-in-Chief. "The buck stops with me."

President Reagan said the biggest lesson from the congressional hearings was that the White House and Congress must regain trust in each other.

Some Democrats criticized the President's failure to respond to specific charges made during the 12 weeks of testimony, or to clear up lingering questions such as the exact role of the late William Casey, former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

But Mr Howard Baker, the White House Chief of Staff, said yesterday that he had advised the President not to do so. He said Mr Reagan had been "really upset" with some of the implications of the testimony.

But he recommended to the President two objectives for his speech: to put the hearings in perspective, and to outline what he wanted to do for the balance of his term.

Mr Baker said he also told him this would not be his last word on the scandal; there would be other opportunities to speak out. The speech was not designed to be a definitive answer to every one of the witnesses.

President Reagan yesterday left for his three-week holiday on his mountaintop ranch in California. He gave notice in his speech that when he came back he would concentrate on maintaining peace and stability in the Gulf, protecting the interests of the Contras in Central America peace talks, arms control and budgetary and trade issues.

He also indicated he would fight hard to get Senate confirmation of Judge Robert Bork, his nominee to the Supreme Court.

The Democrats kept quiet on their promised opposition



President Reagan gives a thumbs-up sign as he prepares to board his helicopter on the South Lawn of the White House yesterday on his way to a holiday at his California ranch.

to Judge Bork. They also said they would not make the US hostages in Lebanon a campaign issue. Instead, they plan to concentrate on the budget deficit and attempts to force Mr Reagan to work with

Congress in reducing the public debt.

Some right-wing conservatives yesterday expressed disappointment with President Reagan's speech, saying

he had capitulated to the Democrats' demands. They said the passion and vigour had gone out of the President, and faulted him for not championing the Contra cause more energetically.

Brief respite in Gulf crisis

Ships brave mines and a dead camel

From Robert Fisk Dubai

The authorities in the United Arab Emirates created a two-mile exclusion zone around the mined area of the Fujairah anchorage yesterday as two of the three US-flagged super-tankers in Kuwait harbour were reported to have completed taking on oil for their return voyage to the Strait of Hormuz under American naval escort.

But just briefly yesterday the Gulf seemed to have returned to what most Arab states regard as normal. The Kuwaitis formally thanked the superpowers for maintaining freedom of navigation and the British harbour master of Fujairah logged 107 ships moving into and out of his anchorage despite the mines. Indeed, the most recent reported sighting of a mine — from a barge north of Khorfakkan — has turned out to be nothing more lethal than a dead camel.

Oslo — The Norwegian Shipowners' Association yesterday called for the formation of a multilateral minesweeping force under the aegis of the UN to patrol the Gulf (Tony Samways writes). A Government spokesman said later that such a force would clearly be "defensive" and would be able to operate without the political charge adhering to the minesweeping patrols sent by individual nations. Norwegian-owned and registered shipping is among the largest presence in the Gulf.

Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, Kuwait's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, spoke with considerable discretion yesterday, expressing his country's appreciation "for the international co-operation and technical efforts... which guarantee freedom of security and normal passage through the Gulf."

He was clearly referring to the Soviet Union, as well as

the US. Even Tehran Radio, which yesterday maintained a limited inactivity against the presence of foreign warships in the Gulf, could only condemn Britain and France for giving "very effective help" to President Reagan by sending minesweepers to the area.

But any suggestion that the crisis here has eased would be an illusion.

The US helicopter-carrier Guadalupecanal, with Sea Stallion mine-hunting helicopters on board, is now steaming from Diego Garcia to the Gulf of Oman and, within scarcely two weeks and with the addition of the British and French minesweepers, there will be at least 50 foreign warships in the region.

The British and French vessels will almost certainly have to start work in the Gulf of Oman itself, perhaps in the area off Khorfakkan where three mines, all now believed to be of modern Soviet manufacture, are still tethered to the seabed. The Emirates prohib-

ited all flights over the area yesterday, thus effectively preventing journalists from seeing any more mines: two of them were in fact discovered by American television crews.

Tehran Radio has, meanwhile, announced that the pipeline for pumping oil from Iran to the Soviet Union, which was closed down in 1979, should be opened again in three months; it was another of the small gestures which Iran is now making to repair relations with Moscow.

There are now several Western embassies in the Gulf region whose political staffs believe the Iranian leadership is becoming increasingly fearful of a conflict with America.

That might just account for Tehran's reluctance to reject outright last month's United Nations Security Council ceasefire resolution; more likely, however, the Iranians suspect that any formal rejection would provide the Iraqis with an excuse to resume attacks on Iranian oil tankers.

Magazine links Iranian diplomat in hiding with the extreme right

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

While the most wanted man in France, Mr Wahid Gerdji, continues to stay within the sanctuary of the Iranian Embassy in Paris, cut off from the rest of the world by a police cordon, outside a storm is brewing over his alleged connection with French extreme right-wing elements.

Mr Gerdji's refusal to present himself before a French magistrate investigating last year's terrorist bombings in France led Paris to break off diplomatic relations with Iran.

The French have blockaded the Iranian Embassy to prevent Mr Gerdji and the other diplomats from leaving the country until he is compelled by the magistrate's wishes. In a tit-for-tat move, French diplomats in Tehran remain blockaded inside their embassy there.

Now the satirical weekly *Le Canard Enchaîné*, and, more importantly, *Le Monde*, have come out with stories of an unlikely alliance between Mr Gerdji — officially the embassy's interpreter, but unofficially considered to be their number two — and a bookshop in central Paris specializing in extreme right-wing publications, with such

titles as *The Myth of Auschwitz* and *The History of the SS*. The owner of the Ognios Bookshop, M Bertrand Leforestier, told *The Times* yesterday that he would be suing *Le Monde* for their allegations that the bookshop's catalogue was financed with a cheque signed by Mr Gerdji.

M Leforestier admits his catalogue was paid for by Mr Gerdji — but says the cheque was payment for a printing contract.

M Leforestier said he first contacted Mr Gerdji about a journalists' trip to the Iranian war front at the beginning of this year.

In March, M Leforestier won a contract to print an expensive hard-backed book in French for the Iranian Embassy, *A Look at the Islamic Republic of Iran*, intended to promote Iran.

It was the cheque for partial payment of this book that M Leforestier says was diverted to pay for his bookshop's catalogue.

Le Canard Enchaîné says the Iranian-French extreme right relationship stretches further back, and anti-semitism is cited as a probable common link.

War of words goes on over deaths in Mecca

From A Correspondent, Riyadh

A Saudi diplomat is staging a hunger strike in a hospital in Tehran while his Government and the Iranian authorities continue to dispute events that led to the rioting at Mecca, which Tehran alleges involved Saudi police shooting Iranian pilgrims.

The Saudi political attaché in Tehran, Mr Mosaad Al-Ghamdi, is staging a hunger strike and refusing medical attention in a bid to force his release. When the Saudi Embassy in Tehran was stormed by the Iranians after the Mecca riot he was severely beaten by Revolutionary Guards and suffered a broken leg and pelvis.

Some 35 Saudi diplomats and their families have been detained in two flats in Tehran since the Embassy was sacked.

The Iranian Embassy in Riyadh is not under a similar blockade, although the Iranians there have claimed they

were besieged for 30 hours last week by Saudi police.

The Saudis are concerned that their diplomats will be hostages until the last Iranian pilgrims return home, while the Iranians are worried that the Saudis will hold some of the Iranian troublemakers, who could be put on trial and sentenced to death.

Saudi Arabia claims Malaysian and Iranian witnesses Revolutionary Guards pumping bullets into the bodies of some of the 275 Iranians who died during the rioting. The Saudis also claim that the Iranians are producing casualties from the Gulf war front as pilgrims hit by Saudi gunfire.

Aware that the Iranians might allege the Saudis opened fire Riyadh took the precaution of having the dead pilgrims examined by Haj officials of various Muslim nations. These officials have backed the Saudi claim that the pilgrims were not killed by bullets.



Commander Hildesley, in charge of mine clearance.

Support vessel from Falklands to aid mine hunt

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The Royal Fleet Auxiliary ship *Diligence*, which arrived only three days ago for operational duty in the Falklands, received a signal on Wednesday ordering it to the Gulf to help in the British minesweeping operation, according to Ministry of Defence sources yesterday.

The 140 crew of the 5,814-ton support ship, which replaced the home-damaged destroyer HMS *Chesapeake* in the South Atlantic during the Falklands conflict in 1982, were told that *Diligence* had been chosen to be the permanent support ship during the operation.

Diligence's sister ship, the merchant vessel *Stena Sea Spray*, which had just left the Falklands to return home for leave, was ordered back to Port Stanley for an extended tour of duty.

Navy sources in the Falklands said yesterday that the signal from the Ministry of Defence had come as a complete surprise. "Although in our sort of work, you get used to surprises," they said.

Yesterday senior Royal Navy staff completed the final parts of the minesweeping "package" which, for the first few weeks, will now involve a total of seven ships. Previously it had been announced that only five ships would be going to the Gulf.

They will be joining the three warships and support ship of the Armilla Patrol which is already in the Gulf.

Naval sources said yesterday that the four minesweepers, HMS *Brocksley*, *Bicester*, *Harworth* and *Breccon* would now be accompanied by two support ships on the way to the Gulf, HMS *Abdell*, a warship built to support mine counter measure forces, and RFA *Regent*. *Diligence* will be the first to reach the Gulf, according to the naval sources. *Abdell* and *Regent* will return home once the three support ships have met in the Gulf.

Diligence has a crew of 40 Royal Fleet Auxiliary members and about 100 Royal Navy personnel. She is fitted with huge engineering workshops and naval sources admitted yesterday that she had been selected because of the potential need to repair

British warships at sea if they came under attack. Iran has said that British ships could now be attacked following the Government's decision to send minesweepers.

The Royal Navy insisted yesterday that the intention was still to retain as low a profile as possible and said there were no plans to send more warships to protect the minesweepers.

Commander Timothy Hildesley, aged 41, who will command the British minesweeping force, admits that he joined the Royal Navy to be an "action man" and is excited by the job.

He has specialized in mine counter measure work since the late 1960s and had his first

operational experience in Suez in 1974.

Commander Hildesley, who was awarded an MBE for his work as the Royal Navy's liaison officer for Operation Harling, the codename for the mine clearance work in the Red Sea.

He has served as commanding officer of two minesweepers, HMS *Brinton* and *Bromington*, and on a Hunt Class minesweeper, HMS *Deveron*, similar to the vessels now going to the Gulf. He is commander of Fourth Squadron Mine Counter Measures.

Yesterday senior naval sources said that at present the plan was for the ships to be self-supporting without depending on a permanent port facility at one of the Gulf states, although *Diligence*, which does not have the status of warship, would be able "to put into any port". Diplomatic moves are underway to find a Gulf state willing to provide port and air base facilities for the crew changes.

As *The Times* disclosed yesterday, two Nimrod maritime patrol aircraft are due to fly out to the Gulf within the next week, but the Ministry of Defence was adamant that they would be playing no part in the minesweeping operation. The two aircraft from 201 Squadron in Rosyth would be taking part in training exercises, which had been planned a long time ago. They are expected to be based at the Omani air base of Seeb.

THE TIMES DIARY

Going for Gifford

Leslie Curtis, the Police Federation chairman, has complained to the Lord Chancellor about a speech made at the Broadwater Farm estate by Lord Gifford last month. Gifford, the Labour peer who chaired Haringey council's inquiry into the 1985 Tottenham riot, was reported to have advocated a mass demonstration when the three murder convictions that followed the riot go to appeal. He is said to have added: "I think we need to get heavy and unite in a kind of conspiracy against them [the state] and for the values we represent." In a letter to Lord Havers, Curtis says that if Lord Gifford made the remarks it was "outrageous conduct on the part of a member of the Bar who is also a Queen's Counsel." Yesterday, Lord Gifford insisted that he had been misquoted. "I was speaking extempore, so I have no exact record, but I said what I said in cases of a miscarriage of justice it's important to organize a defence committee, and as part of that it's a good idea for people to attend peacefully at court."

War front

War on Want staff are now tipping Bill Gilby to succeed George Galloway as general secretary. They believe that Gilby, an aide in the general secretary's office at Nuppe's London headquarters, is Galloway's personal choice. Fellow Scots, they served together on the national executive of the Scottish Labour Party, and were members of the Scottish Labour Co-ordinating Committee. Yesterday, Gilby confirmed he would be applying but insisted: "Nothing is cut and dry." Candidates hoping to be interviewed will have to wait until after September's election of the charity's management council. Meanwhile, Malloway, elected MP for Hillhead at the election, continues to draw both his MP's wage and WoW salary, believed to be in the region of £20,000.

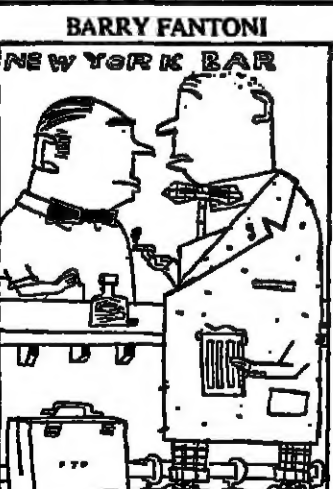
As I sank my molars into a bacon butty yesterday a letter fluttered on to my desk from the Vegetarian Society reproaching me for dubbing the victims of Norman Parkinson's abattoir "squealers". Sorry, but it will take more than its gruesome descriptions to cut my rather ration.

Hockney fest

David Hockney has a private reason for flying from California to Bradford this morning. The artist is officially back in his home city to judge a collage competition at the National Museum of Photography, Film and Television. Tomorrow, however, he will attend the wedding of his nephew at the parish church. There he will be reunited with 12 other Hockneys, including brothers Philip and John who live in Australia, sister Margaret from Bridlington, and his 86-year-old mother, Laura. It is the first time all 13 have been together since 1974.

Strike a light

Islington council has received an unusual request from one of its better-known residents. The architect behind TV producer Janet Street-Porter's new £400,000 London home has asked the council for a streetlamp to be moved because it "compromises the design". Chris Roache of Campbell, Zogolovich, Wilkinson and Gould says the lamp is "an insensitive intrusion into the streetscape" and would be "a permanent nuisance interrupting our client's sleep". The council's chief whip, Chris King, tells me it offered to move the lamp a few feet but this was rejected. "Now she's got a designer-home, it seems Miss Street-Porter wants a Gucci streetlamp to go with it."



Barry Fantoni

At last he's come clean and taken the blame for being innocent

Wig work

As the future of lawyers' haircare and silk hangs in the balance following this week's draft proposals from the Bar Council to liberalize legal dress, the company descended from the patentee of the "forensic wig" remains unmoved. A consultant at Ede & Ravenscroft - where a new wig now costs £193 - tells me it has weathered radical winds before. A few years ago, a wig manufacturer from Hong Kong decided there was a killing to be made from cheaper, nylon headpieces, as the only secondhand supply was from the only draftsman from the profession. Nevertheless, the entrepreneur failed to capture the market. "It was an awful plastic yellow thing, and too hot," the E & R man told me.

The Law Lords exonerated

by Simon Lee

Outraged criticism of the majority Law Lords' decision in the Spycatcher case has been premature and ill-founded. Even a judicial hero like Lord Scarman erred in his letter to *The Times* on August 3 by taking the majority to task in advance of yesterday's detailed judgments. Indeed, Lord Scarman himself made the point in an earlier letter to *The Times* on July 31, 1980, when he defended his colleagues in the British Steel v Granada case who had been similarly attacked. "It would have served the nation better if you had forbore from a sweeping condemnation of the judiciary based, largely, on the decision until its true nature and limits were made known." How true.

Now that we have the Law Lords' explanations the majority show themselves not to be as assinine as the media have claimed. Their judgments make sense and even offer more constructive ways in which the media can pursue Peter Wright's allegations.

First they emphasize that this is only an interim injunction. The newspapers ought to press for the full trial to be arranged as quickly as possible. A full trial is needed to test the Government's claims that further dissemination of Wright's allegations would harm the security services in encouraging other members to divulge confidential information in the future.

So far this claim rests on an affidavit by Sir Robert Armstrong.

At the full trial oral evidence from Sir Robert will be subjected to rigorous cross-examination and the press may well be able to convince the judge that they should be able to publish. Until then, however, the majority judges stress that the Attorney-General's position should be preserved, hence their interim injunction.

Second, deep in the middle of Lord Templeman's judgment there is some further advice for the press: "Anyone, whether public servant, newspaper editor or journalist, who is aware that a crime has been committed or is dissatisfied with the activities of the secret service, is free to report to the police in relation to crime, and in other matters is free to report to the Prime Minister, who is charged with the responsibility of the security services, and to the security commission which advises the Prime Minister."

"The security services are not above the law. In the present case there is not the slightest evidence that these safeguards have failed. Furthermore, there is nothing to prevent the press investigating all the allegations made by Mr Wright and reporting the results of their investigations to the public. It is only unlawful for the press to publish information unlawfully disclosed by Mr Wright and which may or may not be true." (My emphasis.)

So the press should perhaps pursue that path. But the pressman may still feel aggrieved that their freedom has been inhibited, even by a temporary injunction. Indeed, there is some ferocious language by one of the dissenting judges, Lord Bridge, who says that the government will face "condemnation and humiliation by the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg."

What do the majority have to say about that? Lord Ackerly says "no prospect of the convention availing the press. Lord Templeman based his entire judgment precisely on an analysis of how the convention affects the matter, examining its Article 10 and applying it with some care. He observed that the general right to freedom of expression in that article is qualified by a series of restrictions. The exceptions include protecting the interests of national security, protecting the reputation or rights of others, preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, and maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary."

Lord Templeman's judgment is an attempt to show that restrictions are necessary on the right to freedom of expression for these kinds of reasons. He recognizes that the key word is whether the restrictions are "necessary" and in his opinion they are.

So why do the judges disagree? Lord Oliver, who joined Lord Bridge in dissenting, confessed that he had some hesitation in dissenting from the majority: "There was a point during the argument when the skill of Mr Mummery's advocacy almost persuaded me to take the same view as the majority of your lordships... I mention it lest it should be thought that the solution of the very difficult problem posed came easily or obviously to any member of your lordships' House."

This shows that the law is not contained in an Aladdin's cave where the magic words Open Sesame reveal one right answer. It is legitimate for judges to disagree. Contrary to the tabloid headline, "You fools", the judges are anything but. The majority judgments are cogent. So long as it is realized that this is an interim injunction and so long as every effort is made to speed the final trial, the judgments deserve respect.

Lord Ackerly made the humble request for merely "one tith" of the earlier publicity which surrounded the initial announcement of the Law Lords' decision. We do need such responsible analysis of the Law Lords' reasoned judgments and an end to the instant and intemperate criticisms, if only because one bulwark of our democracy is a continuing dialogue between the judges and the judged. The author is a lecturer in law at King's College, London.

Concluding our series on the 40th anniversary of Indian independence,

Nani A. Palkhivala weighs the giant's chances of breaking its chains

A passage to progress



The greatest achievement of Indian democracy is that it has survived unfractured for 40 years. Eight hundred million people (more than the combined population of Africa and South America) live together in freedom as one political entity. Never before, anywhere in the world, has one-sixth of the human race banded itself into a single free nation.

English continues to be the link language of the country - it is the only language in which the south will communicate with the north. British jurisprudence is the matrix of its laws. An unimaginable workload falls on the Supreme Court which, in the range of its power and the sweep of its jurisdiction, and with its right to sit in appeal in any case in any branch of the law, is without peer in legal history.

It may be said of the Indian situation - as I have said of Irish politics - that if you are not confused, you are not well-informed. Many influences are at work in this mosaic of humanity - Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Christian and secular, Stalinist, Maoist, socialist, liberal and Gandhian. The country has set its sights high. It has nuclear reactors and satellites in space. It even exploded an atomic device in 1974 - the only one - and learnt the bitter lesson that one explosion activates international reaction but a series of small ones, one by one, brings prestige and power.

High intelligence and skills, the trader's instinct and the entrepreneurial spirit, are innate in India. An Indian can buy from a Jew and sell to a Scot, and yet make a profit! The per capita income, however, has increased only 71 per cent in real terms since 1950, and the country is today the 17th poorest on earth. This is partly because of the growing population, which increases by 2,000 every hour, and partly because the economic progress has been only a small fraction of its potential. The causes of the failure are easy to find.

First, the Indian economy has been a giant held in chains, adopting socialism as the country's official policy and becoming obsessed with state ownership and state control. Even now, when privatization is sweeping the world, India stubbornly refuses to see that the public sector does not necessarily spell public good, and the private sector does not merely mean private gain. The peacock is our national bird, but we could have more appropriately chosen the ostrich.

Every section of potential enterprise is fettered with red tape. From the beginning of the repu-

lic, the steel claws of the permit-quota-licence raj were laid upon the national economy, and even today their grip continues. In 1984, Rajiv Gandhi initiated a policy of liberalization and dismantling of controls, the new goal being fruitful egalitarianism in place of sterile socialism. But the new policy was never fairly implemented by a bureaucracy reluctant to shed onerous powers, and is now obstructed by those members of the ruling party who prefer to let socialism remain the opiate of the people.

India's other great problem is that as a nation it has no sense of time. In the national language, Hindi, the same word - *kal* - is used for both yesterday and tomorrow. Ancient India had evolved the concepts of eternity and infinity and our bureaucracy conforms with the hypothesis that we live in eternity. The administrative techniques pursued by the government today are the same as were cast in a mould more than a century ago. Files and minutes still go perpetually from official to official and from ministry to ministry. "Round and round," Lord Curzon the Viceroy noted, "like the diurnal revolution of the earth went the file - stately, solemn, sure and slow." Millions of man hours are wasted every day in coping with insane bureaucratic regulations and a torrential spate of amendments.

A third reason for unfulfilled potential is that the state has

disregarded the constitutional directive for free and compulsory education. Two-thirds of Indians (and four-fifths of females) are still illiterate. Hence the progress achieved so far has been with only one-third of the country's human resources, investment in people neglected in favour of investment in bricks and mortar, plants and factories. So the gross national product has increased, but not gross national happiness.

The picture that emerges is that of a great nation in a state of moral decay, of which corruption and indiscipline are two facets. In the land of Mahatma Gandhi, violence is now on the throne. In all regions mobocracy too often displaces democracy. The contribution of modern India to sociology has been *Bandh* - the closure of an entire city by militant roadies. Even inside the legislature, scenes are regularly enacted which would appear unseemly in a fish market.

India has too much government and too little administration; too many public servants and too little public service; too many laws and too little justice. The Indian disease is divisiveness. Communal hatred, linguistic fanaticism and regional loyalty are gnawing at the vitals of the unity and integrity of the country. To the growing army of terrorists and professional hoodlums, caste, clan, creed or language is a sufficient ground to kill their fellow citizens.

Though there is no instant solution and the short-term pros-

pect may only be of shadows lengthening across the path, an objective overview would justify confidence in the long-term future of the country. The vitality of India is remarkable. It does not have a powerful economy, but has all the raw materials to build one. To a Western mind, the Indian's inner strength and capacity for patient endurance are almost unbelievable. Those who have no standard of living still have a standard of life. The nation is able to take in its stride situations which would cause a revolution in other countries.

It will take some time for India to acquire the requisite political culture - the attitudes and habits of tolerance, mutual respect and goodwill, which alone can make democracy workable. The day will come when the 25 states of India will realize that in a profound sense they are culturally akin, ethnically identical, linguistically knit and historically related. The greatest task before India today is to acquire a keener sense of national identity and to gain the wisdom to cherish its priceless heritage. We shall then celebrate the 15th of August not as the day of independence but as the day of inter-dependence - one dependence of the states upon one another, the dependence of our numerous communities upon one another, and of the many castes and clans upon one another.

The author is a senior advocate in the Supreme Court of India.

Pearce Wright on the gaps in radiation science behind the new sheep controls

Risks that rain cannot dissolve

where safety levels should be set. Restrictions were restored because monitoring of meat for residues of caesium-137 is a radioactive stable element which disperses generally through the soft tissues of the body and is lost gradually, about 90 per cent over four months. Before a safety level for sheep was set, the experts had first to agree a more general target, a figure for the dose of radiation that should not be exceeded for any body in Britain from the Chernobyl fallout. The figure adopted was one millisievert a year, again, a very small dose.

You would have to eat weekly more than 4lb of lamb that contained the 1,000 bequerel level to receive a dose of less than half a millisievert a year. The target limit

is also only one-fifth of the annual amount received from natural background radiation. The basis for calculations is a recommendation by the International Commission on Radiological Protection of an annual limit of five millisieverts for any member of the public from all sources of radiation, including discharges from the nuclear industry and diagnostic medical equipment. However, new and more stringent radiation standards are about to emerge from the commission next month.

The revision will lead to a recalculation of the estimates of the deaths across Europe linked to nuclear debris from Chernobyl. More immediately, the safety limit for the concentration of caesium in sheep meat at which restrictions are immediately triggered in Britain could be halved.

The greater stringency is expected because the commission is still gathering the evidence on which its recommendations are based. The main source of data is a continuing study of the atomic bomb survivors and the occupational records of the nuclear industry. They are showing an underestimate of long-term risks of between two to five times.

John Rae

Giving Ulster a real voice

Only the Mad Hatter would invent a country that gives foreigners the right to vote in its general elections but effectively denies that right to a substantial minority of its own citizens. You may wonder whether such an Alice in Wonderland state exists. It does. You are living in it.

The explanation is simple. If I am an Ulsterman, I am not allowed to join or vote for the Conservative, Labour or Liberal parties. I can join the SDP, but it is pointless because the SDP, like the other mainland parties, refuses to organize and contest seats in the province. So I am denied the opportunity of influencing the political favour of the government that will decide the future of my part of the United Kingdom. I am disenfranchised, *de facto* if not *de jure*.

That is bad enough. But my sense of frustration is increased by the knowledge that a citizen of the Irish Republic who chooses to live on the mainland has the right to vote in a British general election, to join the parties that will not accept my membership and, if he wishes, to stand for Parliament. I have no quarrel with this man; but why is he, a foreigner, allowed to vote Labour or Conservative and to sway the outcome of the election, while I, a British citizen, have no choice but to throw away my vote on one of the parochial parties of the north?

The mainland political parties may well reply that the Ulster people have only themselves to blame if they are cut off from the mainstream of British politics. For many years these parties have not been welcome in the province. But that excuse is beginning to wear thin. During the general election an opinion poll revealed that 62 per cent of voters in Northern Ireland wanted the major parties to organize there. In the election itself, Robert McCartney, standing in Down North on this ticket, did not win the seat but achieved a remarkable 35 per cent swing in his favour.

McCartney, a distinguished Ulster QC, is the leading light in the Campaign for Equal Citizenship, founded 18 months ago. The campaign has a small membership but, if the opinion poll is any guide, widespread potential support in both Protestant and Catholic communities.

The logic of the campaign's case seems to me irrefutable. The people of Ulster are citizens of the United Kingdom; they pay the same taxes, are subject to the same laws, are affected by the same policy decisions on a wide range of issues from defence to nuclear power. They must therefore have the right to play a full part in national politics.

If the mainland parties organized in Ulster, the people of the province would be given a real chance to escape from the narrow sectarian politics that have imprisoned them for so long. Protestants and Roman Catholics could join

the same parties and share the same political ideals. National politics would replace the politics of the ghetto.

This sensible proposition is vigorously opposed on all sides. The politicians of the north have no wish to have their credibility put to the test or their power base undermined. The IRA does not want its support eroded by the growth of non-sectarian loyalties. The government of the republic would try to prevent any move that implied the political integration of Ulster with the UK.

As for the mainland parties, they have various explanations for their refusal to organize in Ulster. The people of Ulster could be forgiven for thinking that the real issue is that all the parties have decided to work for a united Ireland, and that the only problem is how to persuade the majority in the province to accept the inevitable. Giving Ulster voters access to mainland politics would encourage the majority to hold out for some other solution, such as full political integration with the rest of the United Kingdom, which is no longer on offer. It would also be inconvenient because it would force the parties to take some account of Ulster opinion. While the parties do not compete for Ulster's votes, they can safely ignore Ulster's wishes.

When I asked the Labour Party's press officer why Labour did not accept members from Ulster or put up candidates in the province, the reply was that this would be "an unwarranted interference in Irish politics". I assume the word "Irish" was a slip of the tongue. I am sure the Labour Party does not need to be reminded that Ulster is still part of the United Kingdom. But the slip was revealing. It could only have been made by someone who had already washed his hands of Ulster.

There can be few people on the mainland who do not believe that Ireland will one day be united in a single state. But that day is a long way off. Even moderate Protestants would never contemplate membership of a state in which the Roman Catholic Church has such an influential role, a role that the referendum on abortion and divorce served to underline. Nor is the Catholic minority in the north necessarily persuaded of the blessings of joining the republic.

If a united Ireland is no more than a distant dream, the case for allowing the people of Ulster access to the mainstream of British politics is a strong one. The Campaign for Equal Citizenship will be lobbying at the party conferences that begin at the end of this month. If the campaign is dismissed as an irrelevant, the mainland politicians' commitment to a united Ireland, at all costs and the sooner the better, will be more starkly exposed.

The author, director of the Laura Ashley Foundation, was formerly headmaster of Westminster School.

however... Henry Stanhope

Memoirs of a spy scratcher

After long deliberation, I have decided to defy the Attorney-General by publishing edited extracts from my forthcoming book, *Coldcatcher*, which the Government has promised to ban.

They were exciting days for MI5 in the early 1950s. England had regained the Ashes, Winterbottom had done *The Times* crossword in a new record time for the department, and we'd even managed to get rid of those prime cats, Burgess and Maclean.

One day I was sitting in the canteen with Carruthers, who was busily making what I took to be masonic signals to the girl behind the tea urn, when he turned to me and lowered his voice. "I say old man," he said, stubbing out his Craven A in the empty Zubes tin we used as an ashtray. "Can you keep a secret? I've been given a very hot tip."

"No good asking me old chap," I rejoined cheerfully. "Don't know one horse from another..." "No, no, I don't mean Cheltenham," he interrupted impatiently. "You know how they're all looking for the Third Man... Well, the Yanks are convinced that it's - Winston Churchill."

"Winston Churchill?" I exclaimed, causing him to pale and clap a hand over my mouth. "Sssshhh...", he said. "If Doris over there gets to hear, it'll be all over the Pig and Eye by opening time."

"But he's an old Harrovian," I protested, "and a kinsman of the Duke of Marlborough. Not to mention being Prime Minister."

"But what a cover, eh?" whispered Carruthers excitedly. "I was at Lord's the other day when I bumped into this M16 Johnnie. Name of Philby. Smart fellow, good background and all that; been in Washington. Someone who's really going a long way if you ask me. Anyhow, he told me in the strictest confidence that the CIA reckon it was Winnie who gave the wink to B and M. They've always suspected him since he got on so well with Stalin in the war. I reckon there could be promotion in this for us if we play our cards right. Got any old keys for Number 10?"

Downing Street on Horse Guards. Carruthers was wearing his old army pullover and a pair of plus-fours, while I'd put on my gardening clothes. In no time we were over the wall.

The back door key I'd borrowed from the M15 store didn't fit. "Must have changed the blasted lock," grunted Carruthers, as he fished out a jemmy from his plus-fours and got to work in the way he'd been taught at training school.

Inside, the floorboards creaked unnervingly. "Don't you know your way around old boy?" muttered Carruthers crossly as we blundered into a kitchen table. "You're the one who's supposed to have all the brains."

Eventually we found our way upstairs and started fixing bugs everywhere - in the bedrooms, the drawing-room, every office we could find and on the telephones. We had a spot of bother on our way back when a policeman clearly suspected us of soliciting.

But I was reassured by Carruthers's MCC members' card. I did bump into my old friend again for some time. "How has it gone?" I inquired, after I'd dragged him away from Gladys in the bar.

"Wrong damned house old boy," he murmured into his glass. "We broke into Number 11 by mistake. Got a couple of dozen reels of tape, all about sterling and corporation tax. Can't understand a word of it."

"But what rotten luck," I cried. "And meanwhile the swine is still free!"

But Carruthers looked far from disconsolate. "It's all right," he said conspiratorially. "Just as well really. I bumped into Philby again the other day, at the Oval. He said he'd been looking out for me because apparently he'd given us a tip-off. It's not Number 10 but Buck House we should be looking at..."

"Good! Lord! You don't mean that?" I said in horror.

"Fraid so old boy," he nodded, glancing to right and left. "What keys do we have for the royal apartments?"

To find out what happened next, readers can obtain copies of *Coldcatcher* under plain wrapper from my publishers in Bangkok.



1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481-4100

A COURT DIVIDED

We must be grateful for the speed with which the Law Lords have produced the reasons behind their decision to prevent the publication in British newspapers of Mr Peter Wright's book, *Spycatcher*. They have clearly noted the concern felt by the press at the time of their majority decision to maintain injunctions which prevent some readers here from reading allegations about our secret services which every reader in many other countries may freely read.

One could fairly say, in fact, that the anger which all their lordships legitimately feel at Mr Wright (and at the money which he may make from revealing his country's secrets) is as nothing compared to the anger which some of them feel to the press. Lord Ackner refers to media reaction to the extended injunctions as "an abuse of power and a depressing reflection of falling standards and values". He talks of "hysteria" and "antic disposition", dragging in the behaviour of two popular newspapers in the Jeffrey Archer libel case to back the unprecedented decision to ban all papers from reporting an open court case in Australia.

We would make no claim for the benefit to the nation of its citizens reading Mr Wright's book; we merely object to the arbitrary and dangerous manner in which its contents are being selectively denied to our readers. It will be of much greater benefit if as many people as possible read instead the Law Lords' judgments, which we publish today in full. For they show with stark clarity the gulf within the highest court in the land between those who give a reasonable impression of living and thinking in the real world of the 1980s and those whose attitudes would be more easily comprehended by Mr Charles Dickens.

Yesterday's full judgments confirm that the substantial point of the majority case is that the injunctions against publication are only temporary and that it would be wrong therefore to destroy the Government's case by permitting publication before a full trial was heard. Additional to this is the view that to prevent the mass publication of Mr Wright's allegations, even when the publication to a large minority was well advanced, would deter Mr Wright from similar behaviour in future, deter imitators, and strengthen the morale of the security service.

This position has little merit. The idea of a new trial of the issue after what has happened so far and after the level of legal debate that has been given to it already seems absurd. As Lord Brandon points out, "we are to be presented with the unedifying spectacle of a court trying the action, or a substantial part of it in camera, not for the purpose of preserving secrets of the state but simply in order to prevent the public from learning allegations made in a book which any member of the public is at liberty to go out and buy in the market place". And as we have argued in previous leading articles, the chaos of the present position does nothing for the security service but subject it to ridicule.

It can, however, be argued in defence of the majority view that it has a degree of logic. In theory in such a case the status quo should be preserved (if necessary by injunction) until a full trial can be heard. Unfortunately injunc-

tions have been unable to maintain the status quo here, a fact with which the majority seem quite incapable of coming to grips.

The much more important failure of the majority view is, as Lord Bridge shows throughout his indignant presentation of the minority case, its abandonment of reality, its inability to place in due proportion the issues of basic freedoms which are here at stake. Lord Bridge shares Lord Brandon's scepticism about a full trial, seeing that "in practice, your lordships' decision of the present appeals will effectively foreclose the options open to the trial". But he goes much further: in language that does proper justice to the Law Lords' extension of the ban to the Australian courts, he declares that "freedom of speech is always the first casualty under a totalitarian regime". He prophesies "condemnation and humiliation" in the eyes of the free world. He avows that the Government's "wafer-thin victory in this litigation has been gained at a price which no government committed to upholding the values of a free society ought to pay."

Lord Bridge is not a man without regard for the needs of state security. As a former chairman of the Security Commission he has more experience of the world of Peter Wright than any of his colleagues. He grasps the tawdry facts of the case. He sees the need for new solutions to the problems which it raises.

In this respect he stands in sharp contrast to his colleagues. Lord Ackner quotes a sixty year old judgment of Lord Sankey to bolster his assertion that "English justice will have come to a pretty pass if our inability to control what happens beyond our shores is to result in total incapacity to control what happens within our very own jurisdiction."

Lord Ackner may legitimately regret the days when Britain had merely to raise its voice to bring obedience to the world. Judicial wishfulness does nothing, however, to confront the problems of keeping secrets in an era of intrusive international communications and increasingly multinational publishing. It makes Lord Ackner look foolish, the law look foolish and the country look foolish too.

The prejudice of Lord Ackner against mass publication as opposed to publication for a minority is breathtaking. No less so is Lord Templeman's naivety about the subject at issue. "Our friends will be dismayed and our enemies rejoice at the failure of the British to protect the security service from calumny reported in the British press," he writes. Yet it is in the very nature of security services to attract calumny and distribute it about their opponents. What does Lord Templeman believe is the habitual behaviour of spies, something suitable for guest night in the Inner Temple? Or does he mean by "calumny" to suggest that the allegations in *Spycatcher* are all false?

The essence of the case remains today as it did before the Law Lords' judgments appeared. The Government must accept that there are no secrets left in Mr Wright's book. It must then take realistic steps to stop a recurrence.

NO PLAYING FOR TIME

The decision by Barclays Bank to invest £4 million in sponsoring the Football League is a welcome vote of confidence in Britain's national sport. Almost any fairy godmother would have been greeted with relief by the hard-pressed League at the start of its centenary season. But the fact that a clearing bank, with a big reputation to put at risk, has come along must be doubly gratifying to clubs and players.

The danger is that too much faith is placed in its magic wand. The Football League still looks like an overgrown pumpkin that will need more than Barclays cash to get it moving. The package it has just secured will help it to survive. But it will need to do much more itself if it is to prosper.

Those who are responsible for this sport can take a more sanguine view of the coming season than they have for the last few years. The last one was characterized by rising attendances and declining violence — and then ended on the highest note of all with a very fine Cup Final.

The underlying fault is still, however, that the League is trying to do too much with far too little. This week's survey of soccer finances, which has shown that 80 of the League's 92 clubs are technically insolvent, reflects a malaise requiring urgent and drastic treatment.

Many could help themselves by sharing grounds. This is more easily said than done, because passionate, tribal instincts intervene. Nor is it always geographically very practicable. To build a new ground halfway between two old ones, might just make

travelling there inconvenient for supporters of both clubs — and bring about a fall in attendances.

The higher standards of safety and accommodation demanded as a result of the Bradford fire have imposed a financial penalty to add to the existing costs of maintenance. If clubs which live cheek by jowl in British cities, do not appreciate the advantages of shared facilities it is hard to feel much sympathy for them if they sink into debt and dereliction.

Another solution is to develop more grounds as local social centres. This is again much easier in theory than in practice, given the shortage of room for development at many clubs — as well as their lack of resources. But the prospects for cooperation with private developers are too often unexplored by football clubs because they contemplate any change with deep reluctance.

The sad truth remains that there are far too many clubs in the Football League for the resources which are available to sustain them. If they will not merge, share their facilities or develop their own valuable sites to bring in additional revenue, they will ultimately perish — or at best, drop out of the League into amateur or part-time status. The football season is already far too long.

Barclays sponsorship should not be seen as a palliative, still less a panacea. It is simply one of a number of opportunities which the League should perceive as such — to tide it over while it tackles the unavoidable questions over its long-term future.

Country living

From Mr John B. Weller

Sir, Mr Swain (August 8) makes statements which need to be challenged. He claims farm buildings did not relate to an industry. This is a post-1947 planning definition: farmers consider agricultural buildings are of interest as industrial archaeology as much as vernacular building.

Second, he reflects a planning presumption against people living, if they wish, in ancient farmland. This is both arrogant and preposterous, a corollary, namely that housing estates at the edge of villages are a better form of settlement. Many villages suffer this defect. Dispersed dwellings, including farm conversions, are an issue of design and of landscape, not settlement, policy, provided their owners can afford some loss of public services.

Perhaps planners should try to revive section 7 of the Erection of Cottages Act of 1958: this required all further shed or barn conversions into dwellings to include four acres. Rural dwellers should have a stake in land and its management to understand their responsibility to rural community, let alone the original objective of self-sufficiency.

Third, historic farm buildings are more than cathedral-like (barns) and cowsheds. The objective for their use should be to retain a sense of the *genius loci*, often that of enclosed settlement. Too often planners think that only barns matter. Certainly, conversion should not pander to the ethos of suburbia.

I stand against the presumptions of the Babergh local plan and I fear for the future of my district. I made similar points in my commissioned report to the Countryside Commission. In

1983, on the rescue of redundant farm buildings. Yours faithfully, JOHN B. WELLER, 152 High Street, Bideston, Suffolk. August 10.

Piling it on

From Mr H. I. Alexander

Sir, After reading some of your recent issues, may I ask: are there any omissions which are not standing; any reappraisals which are not vigorous; any rooms which are not smoke-filled; any inner cities which are not deprived; any face of capitalism which is not unacceptable; any minorities which are not ethnic; any World which is not Third? Yours faithfully, H. I. ALEXANDER, 26 FLEABROOK, Richmond-upon-Thames, Surrey. August 12.

A pointing finger on phone faults

From Mr Peter J. Prior

Sir, During my many years as an industrialist I always regarded Britain's telephone system as the worst in Europe or America. That I had vaguely imagined that, with privatisation, it could only get better.

How wrong I was: the performance of British Telecom has plunged depths hitherto undiscovered even by the previous managers.

Our system's defects are so numerous that I can select only a few at random: calls that don't connect; public telephones which are unserviceable (or worse, insanitary); new call boxes, products of perverted ingenuity, which deny one access to the operator or to directory enquiries; are capable of receiving either coins or phonecards but not both, and some of which unite in the frustration of credit-card calls.

Telecom cheerfully persuades one to purchase devices of dubious reliability — only to find when they go wrong that one must organise one's own repair arrangements and that Telecom engineers do not expect to call.

The concealed mandarins who run this awful organisation then have the gall to fund advertising campaigns saying what a wonderful lot they are. They want the vast, ill-gotten profit of Telecom derived from the long-suffering subscribers they have no compunction in ravishing.

What is worse, they contrive to make subtle increases in the real cost of their peripheral services. The prices charged to my company in Hereford for an identical entry in the Yellow Pages are a typical example: 1985, £202; 1986, £220 (up 9 per cent); 1987, £264 (up 20 per cent).

In any big organisation responsibility — and fault — always lies at the top. Let us call on the shareholders of Telecom to take action. Let the board of directors be discharged and be replaced by persons capable of raising the telephone service to a proper standard, persons whose record, energy and competence inspire the confidence of every subscriber.

Yours sincerely, PETER J. PRIOR, Railways, Sutton St Nicholas, Herefordshire. August 10.

Space research

From Professor M. J. Seaton, FRS

Sir, Research on the energy sources of the stars started in the 1920s and your writer, Robert Matthews, in his report (July 27) on a £700 million EEC project to utilize these sources may well be correct that their commercial harnessing on earth may not be achieved before the year 2040. In any case, such a project could never have been conceived without long years of fundamental research of a type which would not have attracted funds from industry.

The same is true for many other advances in technology which enrich our daily lives.

Yet I would not consider such long-term prospects of enrichment to be the sole, or even the main, reason for adequate Government funding of our universities. Without sufficient support for research and learning — in the arts as well as the sciences — the whole intellectual life of the nation will become impoverished. Yours faithfully, M. J. SEATON, University College London, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Gower Street, WC1. July 27.

Fare and unfair?

From Mr Michael J. Roos

Sir, Early one evening this week, I boarded a Cambridge to London train at Stansted, in Essex, and alighted 20 minutes or so later at Broxbourne. The ticket offices at both stations were closed and neither station was manned by a ticket collector, nor did either station appear to have a box for "conscience money".

Perhaps the economics of manning these stations (even one adjacent to London's third airport) on a main line from Cambridge to London dictate that passengers are welcome to travel free at certain times of day. But I would prefer to be told so.

Yours, MICHAEL J. ROOS, Hawthorn Cottage, Bumble Green, Nazeing, Essex. August 7.

Gazumping reform

From Mr W. H. Yates

Sir, I write with reference to the article by Philip Webster (August 10) on the subject of gazumping. Like most estate agents I dislike gazumping, but most advocates for a change in the law draw the vendor in the guise of the only villain of the piece. They forget that for every gazumping incident there are probably five occasions when the purchaser reneges on the bargain struck. The legislators should not ignore this.

It is thought that the Department of the Environment is considering something on the lines of the Scottish system. This, too, has its imperfections. Under the Scottish system the offeror often imposes conditions or variations to those contained in the particulars of sale; no contract exists until prospective vendor and purchaser agree on these.

Putting an end to the two-party political system

From Mr Richard S. Rowntree

Sir, The contrast in your issue today (August 7) between the balanced assessment of the consequences of the SDP's vote on the merger proposal by your commentator, Mr Geoffrey Smith, and the conclusions of your leading article on the subject is illuminating. Your leader is a typical expression of Conservative desire to ignore the disastrous consequences to this country of a two-party system in which the trade unions are constitutionally linked to one of the dominant parties.

As a social democrat, who only drew back from joining the Labour Party after the last war on account of a conviction that it was important for trade-union influence not to be channelled through a single political party, I have, like many such of my generation, thereby debared myself from an effective political role. Over a lifetime I have, of course, had to recognise having made a number of political misjudgements, but I am sure that this was not one of them.

The movement for the realignment of the post-war British political party system that started with Jo Grimond's leadership of the Liberal Party and has been so ably advanced by David Steel must eventually succeed in some form or other if our national decline is to be finally reversed. Any permanent loss of David Owen to this cause would be grievous, for he combines outstanding ability with the courage to make personal sacrifice for political convictions.

He is right to doubt the ability of the Liberal Party in its present form to obtain the objectives of the Alliance, but what I believe to be his present serious misjudgement has surely arisen from his lack of knowledge of the position of the many Liberals who are eagerly awaiting the birth of a new party equipped to exercise effective political influence. Yours sincerely, RICHARD S. ROWNTREE, Kingthorpe House, Pickering, North Yorkshire. August 7.

From Dr Ian Bradley

Sir, You are right to identify manual workers as the key to the Labour Party's successful ousting of the Liberals in the 1920s (leading article, August 7), but you are surely wrong to suggest that the Alliance's hopes of breaking the mould in the 1980s were based on the same group. If that was the case, then they would have been doomed from the start. Manual workers are a rapidly shrinking element in the population and now account for less than 20 per cent of the electorate.

The clear message of modern British history is that a new grouping needs a new constituency in the country to which it can appeal and on which it can build its challenge to the older established parties. In the aftermath of the First World War such a constituency was provided for

the Labour Party by the newly-enfranchised and newly radicalised manual workers.

The hope of the Liberal-SDP Alliance was that it could appeal to the new middle class that has grown up in the last decade or so and which is made up of those in technical, scientific, managerial and service occupations. The important feature of this group is not just its large size, but the fact that it is, in sociologists' terms, "a class of low classness", lacking the strong class loyalties which traditionally underpinned support for the Labour and Conservative parties.

The problem for the Alliance is that economic boom has turned many of the classless voters of the late 1970s into the yuppies of the late 1980s, while at the same time growing polarisation in society has produced a large depressed underclass. The natural political homes for these two new groups in the electorate are the Conservative and Labour parties.

But it is too early to write off the long-term prospects of the Alliance. The Labour Party, for all its success at the last election, is still dangerously dependent on its diminishing base of manual workers. Yuppies may prove to be a relatively short-lived phenomenon and the day of the classless middle classes may yet come.

It took 20 years for the Labour Party to establish itself as a party of government. Give the Alliance another 10 before dismissing it as a failure. Yours respectfully, IAN BRADLEY, Lintlaw, Strathkessing High Road, St Andrews, Fife. August 8.

From Dr Robert W. Bradnock

Sir, The Times may ardently hope for a return to the two-party system. To argue at this stage that the creation of a new Alliance party out of the Liberal and Social Democratic parties means the inevitable restoration of that system is, however, simply wishful thinking.

The vote of the SDP for a merger with the Liberals has done nothing to stem the long-term decline of the Labour Party, which makes the creation of an alternative Opposition to the present Government so urgently necessary. Nor does it in any way give grounds for believing that an alternative to the socially and regionally divisive policies of grab and grasp identified with today's Conservative Party will be achieved from within.

More significantly, however, your leader completely fails to recognise the long-term growth of support for the Liberal Party since the early 1950s, to which the birth of the SDP and the creation of the Alliance gave added impetus. There is no reason to believe that this momentum cannot be regained.

The key question facing the

lobby, are properly represented. Moreover, the Bill contains a number of new statutory provisions specifically aimed at protecting and developing conservation in the Broads and enhancing the natural beauty of the area. In this respect, at least, it is very much a conservation Bill.

Without doubt, the Bill establishes the machinery necessary to tackle effectively the problems of the Broads, to reverse the environmental decline of the last 40 years and to restore the area to its full glory.

Yours faithfully, J. A. ALSTON (Chairman, Broads Steering Committee), Norfolk County Council, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, Norfolk. August 10.

similar way to older children and adults and must therefore be anaesthetised in a way that relieves it.

Many generations of patients and doctors will remember Dr Anand and Professor Aynsley-Green with gratitude. Their critics will be only remembered as exemplars of the perversity so often displayed by self-appointed tribunes of the people.

Yours faithfully, J. A. DAVIS, COLIN MORLEY, University of Cambridge Clinical School, Department of Paediatrics, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Hills Road, Cambridge. August 6.

umping but in less buoyant conditions the opposite is far more likely.

Yours faithfully, WILLIAM YATES (Head, Residential Division), Knight Frank & Rutley, 20 Hanover Square, W1. August 10.

Nagging doubt

From Mr P. Wilford-Smith

Sir, Clearing up an old farmyard here, we have discovered 12 horseshoes and I have nailed them all on the wall in traditional fashion for good luck.

What shall I do if I dig up one more? Yours superstitiously, P. WILFORD-SMITH, Bensley Farm, Bosbury, Ledbury, Herefordshire. August 10.

Alliance is whether it can be regained by two parties struggling not only to maintain their organisational independence but also to work separately on vital questions of policy development. The clear majority of members of the SDP have shown that they do not believe that it can. The whole direction of Liberal action on the ground since 1981 suggests that Liberal members will follow suit.

It is an opportunity that the overwhelming majority of members of both the Liberal Party and the SDP are determined not to let slip. It is to be hoped that David Steel's leadership, extraordinarily described by you as "devious", will continue to play a major part in shaping its development.

Yours faithfully, ROBERT W. BRADNOCK (Chairman, Liberal Party Foreign Affairs Panel), Four Winds, Jordans, Buckinghamshire. August 9.

ON THIS DAY

AUGUST 14 1981

The stream of refugees from east to west Berlin which led to the erection of the wall damaged Soviet prestige and created labour shortages. During the 1980s daring escapes continued until the wall was widened and surrounding areas were mined.

COMMUNISTS SEAL THE BERLIN BORDER

East Germany today sealed off almost completely the border between west Berlin and the eastern part of the city and between west Berlin and the surrounding east German territory. The measures were directed against east Germans and east Berliners in a desperate effort to stop the flight of refugees.

A record in the refugee movement was reached this weekend. From noon yesterday until 5 p.m. today 4,130 registered at the west Berlin refugee camp. The great majority had arrived before the closing of the border at 2.30 a.m. Those who crossed afterwards did so in ingenious ways.

Circumstances helped them in some cases. There was, for instance, an unusually high number of west Berlin cars passing backwards and forwards through the Brandenburg Gate — one of the few crossing points left open — and, with the attention of the east German Army and police forces centred on controlling traffic and watching the thousands of onlookers who had gathered on the western side, they got a chance to run across the border.

"OPEN THE GATE"

At nightfall tonight the crowds on the western side began to sing the German anthem. They lit torches of newspapers and magazines, displayed a few banners, and shouted insults at the communist forces standing only a few feet away.

There were cries of "Germany remains German", "There is only one Germany", "Hang Ubricht", and "Think of Hungary". Two of the most common slogans were "Open the gate" and "Freedom", mingled with an occasional "Ivan, go home".

East German armoured cars, manned by extremely young troops, had their machine-guns pointed at the crowds. Some of the cars were equipped with high-powered hoses.

Though the new east German measures do not interfere with the life of west Berlin they violate the quadripartite status of the city, which guarantees freedom of movement to all Berliners.

RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT

News of the restrictions was given in a special announcement over the east German radio. This stated that, in agreement with the decision of the political advisory council of the Warsaw Pact Powers, the east German Government had taken the following measures which were necessary in the interests of peace in Europe, in the interests of the German Democratic Republic, and of the security of the "socialist camp".

Controls would be introduced along east Berlin's border with east Germany and east Berlin of the kind "customary along the borders of any sovereign state". Until west Berlin became a "demilitarized free city", east Berliners would need a special pass for entering west Berlin.

Along the east German border police and Army guards, all armed, were strongly reinforced. In some places tanks and light armoured cars could be seen. Roads were dug up with pneumatic drills; barbed wire fences and obstacles were erected. Some of the obstacles were decorated with red flags or east German flags.

West Berlin presented the picture of a besieged city, though 13 crossing points from the west to the east were kept open. Traffic passing through both parts of the city was largely disrupted. The elevated train line which circles Berlin was stopped entirely.

SPECTRUM

Still stuck on the king of rock

Far from the decadence of Graceland, the King's most devoted band of followers paid homage this week where it all began — the humble shack in which the star was born.

The world's biggest collection of Elvis fans does not hail from anywhere near this Mississippi heartland. They come from places like Croydon and Burnley and they have trouble with the local language.

"What do they mean, hash browns? I've never heard of them," says a secretary from Orpington, one of the thousands of fans from the British Elvis Presley Association who swarmed into this sweltering little southern town for the pilgrimage. Andy Osborne, an 18-year-old from Chesham in full regalia, had to explain to the locals what a Teddy Boy was. "They didn't seem to have them here," he notes at the motel convention centre, where he turned up to jive with his girl friend, who works at Sainsbury's.

It took 20 big red and silver coaches, escorted by the motorcycles of the Highway Patrol and a couple of pink Cadillacs, to transport the fans. They have paid about £1,000 each to join the trip to Graceland in commemoration of the tenth anniversary of his death, an event of such import that in the following 24 hours RCA, his record company, took orders for 10 million of his albums.

Ten years on, according to the local newspapers, these pilgrims constitute the biggest British group to come to America since the Olympic Games, and the television reporters are out to meet them. America has its Presley faithful, of course. About 50,000 are expected to turn up tomorrow for the candlelight procession to the grave at Graceland, the palace of kitsch where he held court in Memphis, 90 miles to the north.

But the US fans belong to a hundred different clubs, many of them feuding like the medieval church over doctrines and procedure. The British, with their thriving club, impress the locals. Todd

Ten years after Elvis Presley's death, his British fans went way down south to the birthplace of the man and the myth. Charles Bremner joined them

Slaughter, the Loughborough man who runs it, brings a group every year and they are Jack Marshall of Tupelo, the British are fairly new to the scene there was just some way could reach out and hug each other, he tells the fans with emotion after their first alcohol-free dinner.

Mainly in their thirties and forties, but some of them much younger, they have not come to celebrate the bloated drug addict who died in his Memphis castle. The Elvis they revere is the warm-hearted inventor of rock 'n' roll, the poor boy who loved his mother and gave Cadillac to his friends, the innocent before the corruption of the wealth financed by his 35-number one hits in Britain and the US. They remember the Presley of Tupelo, where he lived in a "white trash" family until 1948, when he was 13, most of it in the



The shack where it all began

weather-boarded shack built by his father down the road from the Pentecostal church. The mother and son moved out when the elder Presley was jailed for theft.

Standing in the blistering Deep South sun, a grey-haired Essex lady dabbed her eyes at the emotional high point of one of the day's ceremonies. The fans had just listened to

"Old Shep", the ballad about the boy and the dog that brought the 10-year-old Elvis second place in a talent contest at the Mississippi-Alabama Fair. "Lord, we thank you for Elvis's gospel music and the love of you that he shared," the prayer lady intoned. Then the son of the fair's manager tells how his father had caught the 11-year-old Elvis climbing the fence because he had no money. He gave the boy \$5. A decade later, the new idol sent a cheque so all poor boys could enter the fair free.

In a further treat, the son of the boy who won first prize at the talent contest was on hand for the ceremony at the two-room Presley shack. On Monday, native sightseers at the shack were overwhelmed by the tide of Britons sporting "I Miss Elvis" badges. Mixed among them were small contingents from Belgium, Switzerland and other countries who had come with the big British battalion, and members of the Japanese Elvis society.

The faithful thronged the souvenir centre, filed through the cottage and paused with reverence in the Memorial Chapel just behind. Here you see a bearded Elvis, commemorated in a stained glass icon.

A smaller panel alongside was presented by the North London and Hertfordshire Chapter. For the devotees, there is no conflict between such piety and the grotesque and self-destructive later Presley. "If everybody was to follow his teaching, the world would be a lot better place to live in," says Clara Brown, from Croydon, who has accompanied her 33-year-old son Keith on the trip. "Say example, not teaching," Keith

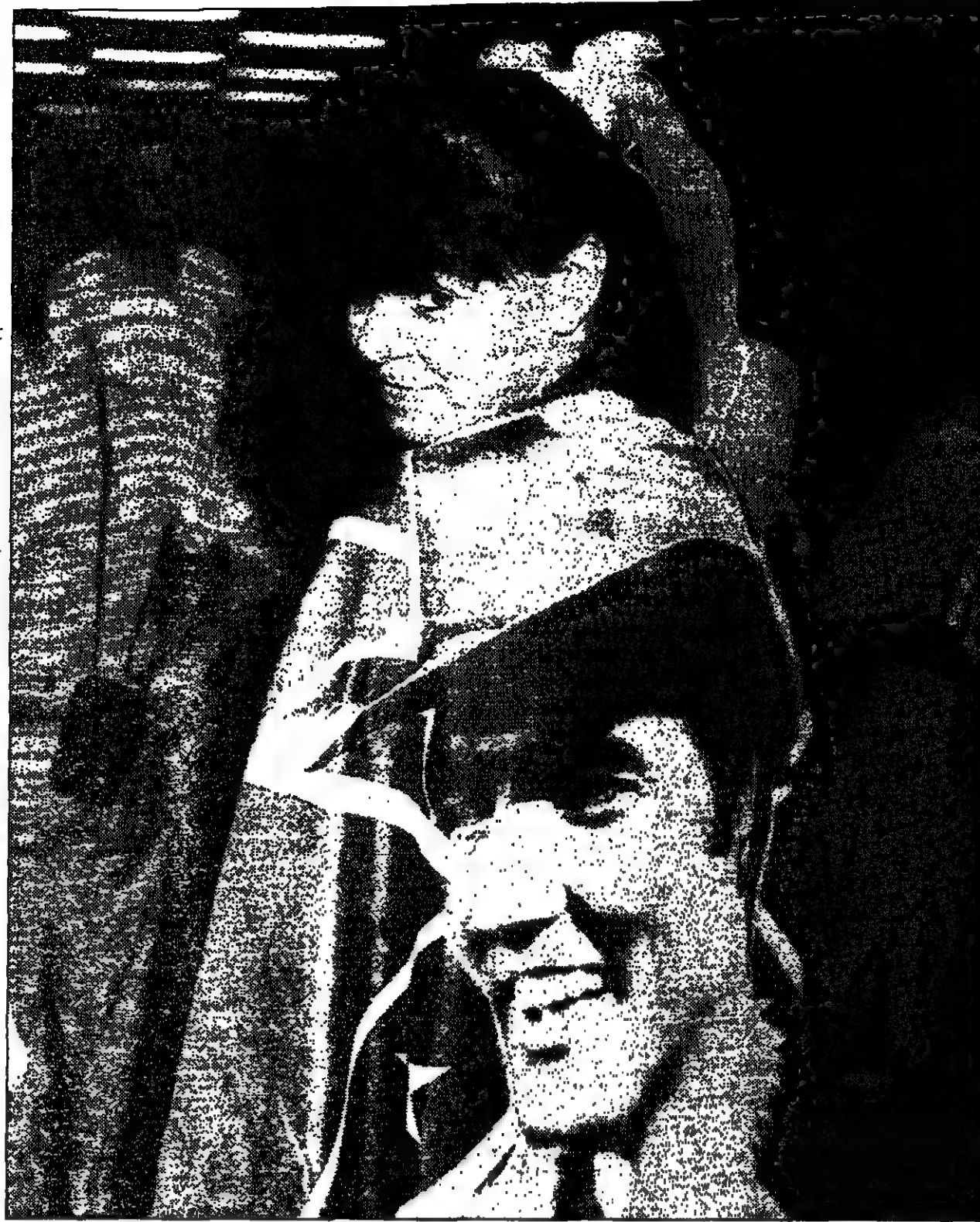
corrects her. "He didn't teach."

"If you're not an Elvis fan, then you're not happy. It's not morbid. He gave a lot of happiness," Clara says. The idea that Elvis is still around is a constant in the American celebrations. "Elvis Presley is alive and well and with us in this room tonight," says Mae Axton, who co-wrote "Heartbreak Hotel", Elvis's first big hit. "I'm sure he is watching us and watching every one of you."

The weekly "supermarket" tabloids have been reporting the appearance of Elvis's ghost to such luminaries as the country singer Wayne Newton. One said that he had been seen in Texas recently. He is also held to survive in other ways. Two women have lately claimed to be his illegitimate children, senior to his only heir, Lisa Marie, now aged 19. Like the false Dimitris — pretenders to the throne in Russian history — they are claiming their birthright, to the outrage of the faithful. When he devoted a recent show to the subject, the television comedian David Letterman asked all members of the audience who were not Elvis's offspring to stand up.

Some of the British pilgrims find the religious style a little hard to take. "It's too sentimental," says one dissident, who wanted his name withheld. "We're here to have fun." For most of them, the trip is a chance to share a good package holiday along with like-minded compatriots. "It's not so expensive, really," says Des Gold, of Burton on Trent, a 30-year fan. "Other people go to Spain. That costs money, too."

Several hundred have saved for the trip in instalments through a special savings account over a long period: after Graceland, most of them fly on to Las Vegas and then visit Los Angeles before going home. Many had never been abroad before, says Brian Pearson, one of the team of professional couriers shepherding the fans through their programme. "There's quite a lot of them who've done it on the dole."



Steadfast, loyal and true: Beverley Waterhouse, a 17-year-old from Essex, displays her allegiance to the King

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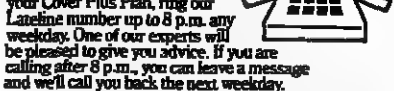
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Sun Alliance, CFP Dept, Farnham, W. Sussex RH14 1ZA.

Scousers at sea

There is consternation in Bournemouth: the beaches and bars are full of Liverpudlians — throughout the year

"Lost wallet returned — in one hour" rejoiced the *Bournemouth Evening Echo* this week, revelling in this proof of the native decency and honesty of its citizens. "It really does restore your faith in human nature," said the wallet's owner.

In a quiet pub a mile or so from the seafont, the story reduced three Liverpudlian readers to mirthful astonishment. Why would anyone return £185? "The Bournemouth people are so straightforward," said one. They are anxious to remind you that they are not the only northerners in Bournemouth. But they do have a pub so well colonized that locals feel uneasy, a suburb that they have made their own, and a reputation which has made the Liverpudlian the butt of a string of ethnic jokes.

In the Dolphin public house in Boscombe, the centre of Bournemouth's Liverpudlian territory, the scousers are virtuously solemn. "It's like apartheid here," said a Liverpudlian called Stephen. "In Bournemouth we're treated like blacks in South Africa — we're used to it now."

Five years ago, when Liverpudlians started to surge into Bournemouth, they presented a source of cheap labour. Now Dorset police estimate their numbers at between five and nine thousand — out of Bournemouth's total population of 152,000 — and claim that Liverpudlians commit 46 per cent of crimes on commercial premises. "When I first came down it was 'Oh, what a lovely accent,'" said Tony, a 26-year-old painter. "Now it's 'You're a scouser, you're the one that robbed our house.'"

In the hot, empty streets behind Boscombe Pier, landlords are now reluctant to rent their rooms to Liverpudlians, convinced that they will suffer from wreckage, noise, overcrowding and unpaid rent.

Some locals believe that the Liverpudlians get preferential treatment. "I've been here three years," said one Bournemouth woman who was waiting for a council house. "They're rehousing scousers." At the DHSS offices, Len McCarthy said that Liverpudlians had not besieged his offices. "As far as we are concerned, it's not a problem."

Adrian, 23, has lived in Bournemouth for five years. "I was just bored in Liverpool.

Here you've got the beach, you've got the weather, and the foreign students." But he avoids the Bournemouth police: "I hate the police — they just hate scousers. If something happens, they just go round the scousers first."

Detective Superintendent Des Donohoe of Dorset Police denies that there is a discrepancy in sentencing. "But if Liverpudlians are being picked on, then they should look in the mirror and ask why. They haven't been singled out by us because they've done nothing, but because they have done several things." In 1986, a special "scouser squad" was set up, which Donohoe says has meant a higher detection rate "but the problem's just as bad". For those Liverpudlians in Bournemouth who have settled in and have jobs, the

image is hard to counter. "I think it's blown out of all proportion," said Kenny Kershaw, a lavishly tattooed deckchair attendant who has worked on the beach for the last three seasons. "They won't take any more scousers on now. I only got this because I'd been here before. If they hear your accent now, they think you're a thief."

Other Liverpudlians profess indifference to the hostility and abuse: to them, fellow scousers are better company and funnier. "The general feeling in Liverpool is that Bournemouth is finished anyway," said Adrian. His mate Tony thought he'd stay, all the same. "I don't see much point in going back to Liverpool. I don't think I'd be able to settle there."

Catherine Bennett
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Wish you weren't here? Kenny Kershaw, a scouser

CONCISE CROSSWORD No 1335

ACROSS

- 1 Sour (6)
- 2 Package (6)
- 3 Perak capital (4)
- 4 Gulliver's Travels country (8)
- 5 Stalemate (7)
- 6 Take a dip (5)
- 7 Romeo and Juliet priest (5, 6)
- 8 Hurl (5)
- 9 Russian plains (7)
- 10 Height (8)
- 11 By unknown hand (4)
- 12 Sweet (6)
- 13 Wild (6)

DOWN

- 1 Landlord's agent (7)
- 2 Cavalry platoon (5)
- 3 School registers (5)
- 4 Soggy mass (4)
- 5 Ship's windlass (7)
- 6 Spirit (7)
- 7 Original psycho-
- 8 analysis (5)
- 9 Lock of hair (5)
- 10 E. African knife (5)
- 11 Military group (4)
- 12 Wood turning ma-
- 13 chine (5)
- 14 Raise, drop shoulders (5)
- 15 Canal boat (5)
- 16 Preliminary (7)

SOLUTION TO NO 1334

ACROSS: 1 Bodice 4 Stasis 9 Defunct 10 Ghoul 11 Brae 12 Regalia 14 Tom Stoppard 18 Riposte 19 Yelp 22 Fishy 24 Rooster 25 Duresse 26 Shield

DOWN: 1 Bids 2 Delft 3 Consensus 5 Tug 6 Spoiler 7 Solomon 8 Sarcophagus 11 Bus 13 Cappy Moth 15 Opposer 16 DPF 17 Trifid 20 Libel 21 Brad 23 Yes

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MALE				
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21-25	21-25	21-25	21-25	21-25
26-30	26-30	26-30	26-30	26-30
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36-40	36-40	36-40	36-40	36-40
41-45	41-45	41-45	41-45	41-45
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FEMALE				
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5. Have you attended or have you been advised to attend, for treatment or for tests at any hospital, clinic or surgery within the last five years?

6. Have you received, or have you any reason for expecting to receive, medical advice, treatment or tests, including blood tests, in connection with any serious viral disease (such as AIDS, HIV, Hepatitis, AIDS or related conditions)?

7. Have you, within the last year, applied to any other company for life assurance or ever had any application postponed, declined or accepted on special terms?

8. Do you participate in any hazardous activity or occupation?

9. If you have answered 'YES' to any of the above questions, please give details on a separate sheet of paper. You may still be accepted.

10. How many cigarettes do you smoke each day?

11. Your answer to this question is 'None' please consider the following declaration.

12. I declare that I have not smoked 10 cigarettes or more in the last 12 months and that I have no intention of smoking cigarettes in the future.

13. I declare that I have not smoked 10 cigarettes or more in the last 12 months and that I have no intention of smoking cigarettes in the future.

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For a copy of our Interim Statement, please write to:
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FRIDAY PAGE

The mini money-makers

Parents never used to discuss money with their children; now, when smart investors start portfolios at school, Maggie Drummond discovers that they are finding it hard not to

Something happened in Morgan Grenfell shares the other week and I really ought to remember what it was. I had, after all, just enjoyed a lengthy chat with Oliver Evans on both this and other stock market topics.

It is the school holidays and Oliver has masses of time to read the newspapers—even the pink one—and indulge in his favourite pastime, which is making a list of the shares he thinks are going up and comparing their performance a week later. Oliver is 10 years old. But he was even younger when he insisted—absolutely insisted—that his parents buy him some Sainsbury's shares a year or so ago. "Every time we went shopping, there were simply millions of people in the store," he says. "I just thought it must be such a profitable company. And the shares have gone up enormously."

Neither did our young hero flinch when he turned, as in his work, to the list of share prices one morning and discovered that Sainsbury's appeared to have halved overnight. Misprint said his mother, economist correspondent Ann Segall. "Rubbish," said Oliver, "they've just given me two shares for the price of one." A yuppy puppy can spot a scrip issue a mile off. "Mummy is such a nervous investor."

Too true, says his mother, who started life as a trainee stockbroker; she is surprised by her offspring's enthusiasm for the stock market, the capacity to be interested in topics which his parents, at his age and much later, had barely heard of. "I don't think it's primary parental influence," she says. "We never grew up with the concept of money-making as an activity, but our children love. Families used never to discuss money with their children. Now it's all different. There has been a complete cultural change."

According to Alexander Hurd, son of the Home Secretary, and at 18 already a keen stock market fan, the privatization share issues offering the public a simple, low-cost entry to the game are primarily responsible for turning this generation on to the idea of investment. It is a handy experience to get your allocation of British Telecom at 16 and find, as he did, that you can double your money. "A lot of young people have got the odd £200 to play with," Alexander says. "You see other people doing it and want to join in; it looks like easy money. But

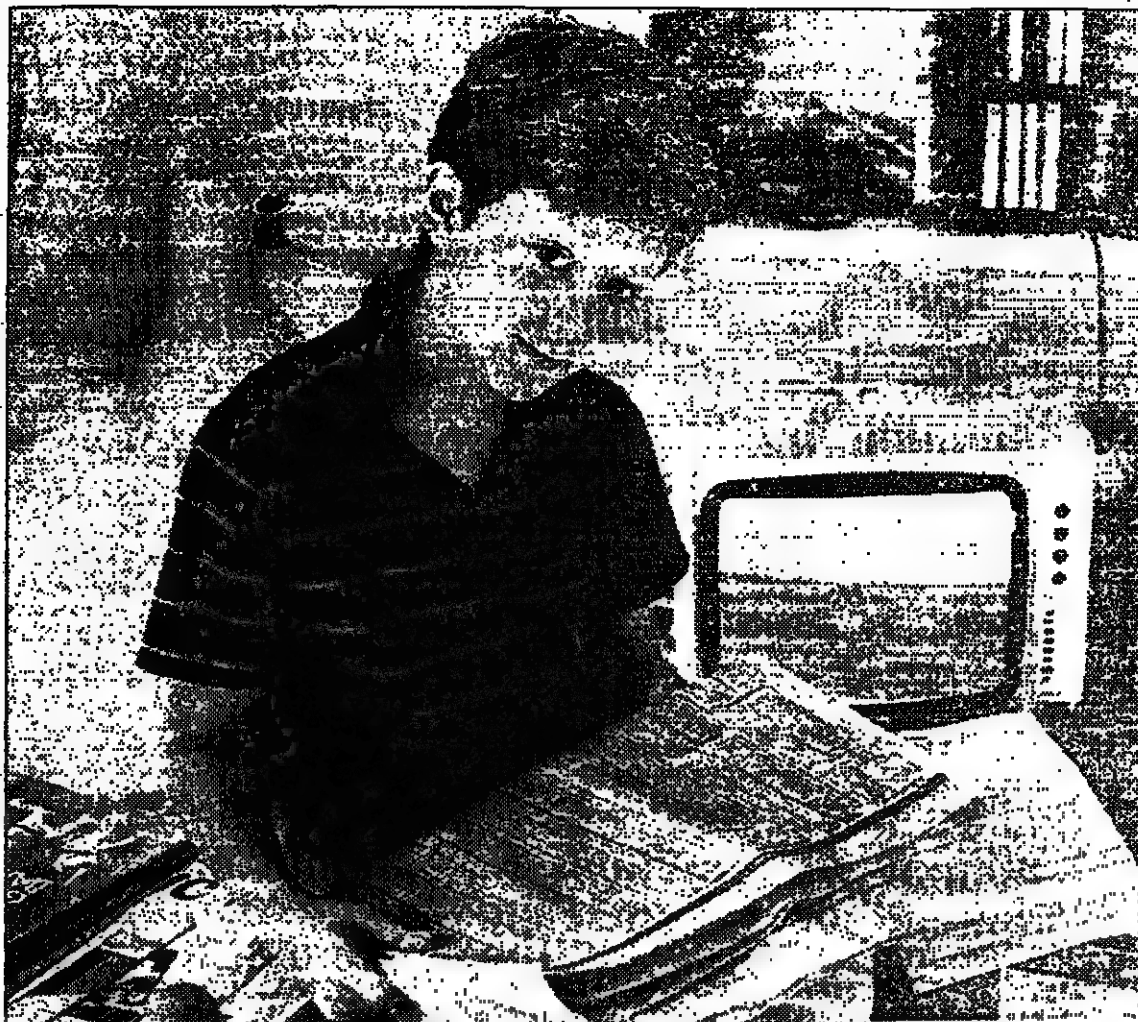
then you get interested in the whole thing, I was left some cash by my grandfather which I have invested in the stock market. I took the stockbrokers' advice and put some in investment trusts for the long term. But I like to pick the individual shares in my portfolio for myself."

Alexander's current enthusiasm is penny shares, very much the wild end of the stock market, where the small investor must show devotion to duty—reading the newspapers, subscribing to tip sheets, keeping the cars open, in order to make money. He does not want a job in the City, but feels that wheeling and dealing in stocks and shares is something he should know about.

Lower-children of the Sixties, who are now parents, might find this interest bizarre. "It is a holy and a wholesome thing to teach one's children a genuine contempt for money," said Jim Anderson, who won £1 million on the pools and announced that he would not be leaving any of it to his children. Save & Prosper, the investment house, has a new savings plan called "The young millionaires". It is designed to give children a "proper financial start in life". "Young millionaires?" I asked Tony Doggart, finance director of Save & Prosper. "Isn't it a bit much?" Not at all, he says. "People's



Horses for courses: James Fry (left), aged 12, checks the price of his shares every day and studies the *Racing Post* every week; Nike Doggart, aged 15, prepares for her first meeting with a stockbroker



Studying the stock market: Oliver Evans, aged 10, with his favourite reading matter, his portfolio

financial expectations have risen enormously and their children are going to have to think in telephone numbers." And he is right. Not only has wealth become chic, but the play of passing money from grandparent to grandchild is one of the few legal, tax-efficient side-steps still available, a point that has not escaped the money marketing men. It works in a number of ways.

A grandparent can either hand over cash, which is then invested for a high income on which a child will not pay tax unless the amount goes above the level of the single person's tax allowance. Or clever things can be done with covenants. Malcolm Kerr, of Albany Life, says: "People, particularly those in the south-east, are getting terribly worried that their children are never going to be able to afford to buy a house unless they've got some capital. So these kinds of investment plans for children are going rather well." Privatization, he says, with advertising aimed at young people, certainly made children far more aware of things like shares.

'There were millions of people in the store—I thought it must be a profitable company'

Doggart's 15-year-old daughter Nike is trotting off to her first meeting with a stockbroker in a few weeks' time, mightily impressed with the amount of money her 17-year-old brother Sebastian made in Virgin shares. "I think it's all going to be very interesting," she says. "I think children should be made aware of money early, and make the effort to learn about business and the stock market—how it works—so that they can handle things themselves. I'm hoping to come up with some suggestions of my own when I meet my stockbroker."

But it is not all a case of double your money. Some learn from their mistakes. Seventeen-year-old Benjie Fry was given £1,000 to invest a year ago, and promptly lost

about half of it before redeeming himself with a well-timed investment in Body Shop, which rocketed up by 50 per cent.

"I don't really want to rely on a stockbroker for advice," says Benjie, who had his own Dealer card at the tender age of 16 (a stockbroker's telephone share dealing service), and learnt all about the stock market at Eton, where City gossip appears to have overtaken girls as the number one topic of conversation. "I think you've got to watch things yourself and then you see a pattern in share movements." A sensible point of view, according to his father, Charles Fry, a venture capitalist expert. "When I was at school I didn't know what a share was, really. Privatization has created a different environment; a lot of grown-ups probably can't be bothered to fill in the application forms, because you end up with such a small amount. But the chance of a £100 profit looks terribly exciting to the children. That way they learn about the technicalities which still frighten a lot of people."

Both Charles and his wife Jane are happy that their children understand the principle behind the investments, but they are completely at a loss to explain their 12-year-old son James's fascination with horse racing. While Benjie studies share prices, James looks at racing forms with the same kind of interest and enthusiasm, getting the *Racing Post* every week and spending his pocket money on the *Horse and Hound*. Despite, or perhaps because of, his reasonable working knowledge of the stock market ("I look at the price of my Amstrad shares every day"), James's idea of investment fun is backing his hunches at race meetings. "Daddy bought a race horse to show me that horses aren't that brilliant a way to make money," James says. "The trouble is, he has been proved wrong, because Great Chaddington has done really well. It's not the money really—I just enjoy following it all."

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Love, honour and pay up

This week a British court ordered the former husband of Mrs Angela Atkinson to continue paying her £4,500 a year maintenance, although she has a live-in lover. Meanwhile, in the United States, Joan Collins is rejoicing at having to part with probably just a couple of million pounds to pay off her former husband Peter Holm, after her court victory.

The two cases illustrate both the differences of wealth and the contrasting attitude to matrimonial property laws in Britain and the US. British law remains relatively undeveloped in this area. Miss Collins, on the other hand, was liable to California community property laws.

"I will never, never, ever marry again," Miss Collins said as she cracked open the champagne. Fair enough. Marriage for the economically well-off has become something of a high-wire act in the land where hard-earned business assets may depart along with the exiting spouse.

In a recent New York divorce case, a husband who put himself through medical school had to make a considerable lump sum payment to his divorced wife, based on what he might earn should he ever decide to practice medicine.

In England, pre-nuptial contracts like the one that protected the bulk of Miss Collins's fortune are unenforceable, so people don't bother making them. A spouse ought to be able to arrange their own affairs according to their own lights. English matrimonial law has a discretionary base, which to some people means it is arbitrary, and to others means it is flexible.

The judgement that Mrs Atkinson was still entitled to maintenance in spite of her cohabitation with "Mr Jeffs", hinged on the fact that she had not married him, so had not acquired the statutory benefits of a married woman.

This seems to me almost beside the point. I am more concerned about what her behaviour was during the marriage than what she now does in her bedroom. Conduct strikes me as a very relevant factor in determining what one spouse owes the other after the promise to love, cherish and obey for a lifetime breaks down.

It's hard to know from the news reports precisely what happened to Mrs Atkinson's marriage, which ended in 1982 after 22 years. Some husbands do jettison devoted, hard-working wives who have loyally performed all their duties for many years, simply because they encounter someone two stone lighter wearing a becoming shade of mauve lipstick.

In these circumstances, I



BARBARA AMIEL

see absolutely nothing wrong with the notion that the husband should support his ex-wife—whether she meets a man and moves in with him or indeed whether she remarries.

This may not be the law as it stands, but it is the law as I think it ought to be. Treating people equally is justice, but treating good and bad people equally is injustice.

Of course, couples ought to be able to get a divorce for absolutely no reason at all. But I find the idea of no-fault support settlements ludicrous. There are bad spouses. A husband or wife may be an alcoholic. A spouse may repudiate the marriage entirely by undermining the best efforts of the good spouse. It is fashionable in this age of moral relativism to say that there are always two sides to every story or that marriage is too complex a matter for courts to settle, but courts routinely settle far more complex disputes than matrimonial ones.

There is a nasty spirit among our feminists, who want to toughen up British divorce laws so that was a man's socks should be considered a material contribution to a husband's professional success leading to an entitlement to a percentage of his business assets. The reasoning behind this utterly escapes me, as does the idea that a husband's maintenance of fuse-boxes should entitle him to the wife's savings from her publishing job.

Every marriage is different and most husbands and wives know instinctively both their own market value and the value of the sacrifices—or benefits—that the particular marriage has incurred.

Only the wild card of sexual jealousy seems to throw matters into a tizzy. Perhaps Mr Atkinson wanted to invoke *dum casta* as a condition for his wife's maintenance payments—in which case, Mrs Atkinson should appeal to the courts for an increase in the award if next year her husband takes up with a very pretty younger woman.

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NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

In or out for W?

If publishers believe there to be a market over here for a high-society fashion newspaper like *W*, sophisticated sister to America's trade bible *Women's Wear Daily*, things must have perked up in the British fashion business.

Are there really "Ladies Who Lunch" in London? Will cliques of chic women be snapping daily on the step of Harry's Bar in South Audley Street, as they are outside Manhattan's Le Cirque? Can their little Anouška Hempel number or Hardy Amies stand up to the close scrutiny that their American sisters' Ad-Offs and Bill Blass outfits rate? Are they in or out?

All will be revealed this autumn. Britain's own edition of *W* will be launched, promising 72 pages of gossip and fashion, parties and beauty. Who Eats What, and With Whom? Who Wears What? And Who Cares?

In the US, every fourth *W* reader of publisher John Fairchild's American original is a millionaire, and *W* can justify its claim to be "the newspaper that influences the influential". In Britain, one wonders if the fashionable and the smart crowd ever meet. Traditionally the aristocracy is notoriously suspicious of anything that smacks of chic, preferring to be photographed in fraying tweeds, or hunting coat. London's fashion industry reflects the tastes of its customer. The British in fact have the fashion industry they deserve, one that merely specializes in country clothes and ballgowns.

W plans to show the world that London is an important staging post for the international jet set. Kevin Kelly, publisher of British *W*, is confident that there is a new fashion-conscious crowd eager

Will America's fashion newspaper thrill the cool British customer?



W's front page fashion splash

to read about their own antics. He knows them well, documenting their lifestyles in his successful monthly, *The World of Interiors*, and giving them *Business* magazine. "London is an international city supporting chains of smart designer shops."

At Condé Nast, where *Tatler* records the high-jinks and *Vogue* sets the fashion pace, there are editorial changes. Anna Wintour leaves *Vogue* at the end of the month to return to New York to edit *House and Garden*. *Tatler*'s editor, Mark Boxer moves to *Vogue* as editor-in-chief with Liz Tilberis moving up from fashion director to be editor.

W's editor, Jane Procter, says: "We are going to be talking to the people who really buy fashion. They are the women who are rich because they married rich men, as well as a new generation of women with high earning-power. Then

there are the high-spending young. We also know there is a huge trade readership."

Fashion events and people in the fashion business rarely make front-page news here. Fairchild may change that. "Daggers Amid Feathers and Bows" screamed a front-page headline in the *Herald Tribune* during the recent Paris couture collections. Nothing to do with whether hemlines were going up or down, (that was relegated to a report on page six), it was Fairchild who was making news, barred from the Saint Laurent show and his customary centre front-row seat.

This was all because he had given the cover of his influential bible to a new Paris star, Christian Lacroix. "The next time Saint Laurent is mentioned in *W* it will be his obituary," Fairchild may have been teasing. But his reply to a telex sent by the editor of the new British edition of *W*, requesting coverage pictures from the recent Paris couture shows, rings true. His fearlessly abrasive style has made his publications both dreaded and loved by everyone in the fashion business. Chronicling not just the bitchy goings on in the trade around the world but also the society on which it feeds, *W* has been compulsive reading for 15 years for the rich clientele who buy fashion and follow the international season from Manhattan to St Moritz, or Palm Beach to Ascot, who pick it up to discover whether they are in or out, one of the Best-Dressed or a Fashion Victim.

To survive the typically Fairchild hard-nosed tactics planned by Jane Procter and her team of 14 journalists, the trade is going to have to toughen up its act.

Liz Smith

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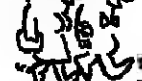
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THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN



BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
★ Returns only

THEATRE
LONDON

★ **THE ART OF SUCCESS:** Michael Kitchen as Hogarth in Nick Dear's excellent play about art, ambition and conscience. A transfer from Stratford.
Pit Theatre, Barbican Centre EC2 (01-628 8795). Tube: Barbican. Preview on August 15, 7.30-10pm. Aug 15 mat 2.40-3.30pm. Press night Aug 17 7.30-9.30pm. Then in repertoire, £2.50.

★ **BRIGHTON BEACH MEMORIES:** Neil Simon's vivid recollection of a Brooklyn childhood. Waves of emotion. Julie Covington joins the cast in an NT transfer.
Alcega Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-636 6404, cc 01-375 6233). Tube: Holborn. Mon-Fri 7.30-9.45pm. Sat 8.10-10.45pm. mats Wed 3-5.15pm and Sat 5-7.15pm. £4.50-£15.50.

★ **COURT IN THE ACT:** Gorgeous Gabrielle Drake alights Michael Cernuschi and Elizabeth Durrant in a production of the 1912 French farce.
Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-636 6224). Tube: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Fri 8-10.20pm. Sat 8.30-10.50pm. mats Thurs 5.20pm and Sat 5-7.20pm. £2-12.50.

★ **CORPSE:** Colin Baker and Jack Watling in a twisty thriller of murder, money and idealism.
Strand Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-636 6224). Tube: Aldwych/Charing Cross. Mon-Sat 8-10.10pm. mats Wed 3-5.15pm and Sat 5-7.10pm. £3.50-£15.50.

★ **FOLIES:** Sondheim's musical, in London at last, has Diana Figg and Julie McKenzie leading a sassy cast.
Shakespeare Theatre, Shifeshire Avenue, WC2 (01-375 5359). Tube: Holborn/Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat 7.45-10.15pm. mats Wed and Sat 3-5.30pm. £2-12.50.

★ **THE GREAT WHITE HOPE:** Hugh Quarshie in his award-winning performance as the first black heavyweight champ.
Her Majesty's Theatre, Piccadilly, W1 (01-236 5568). Tube: Piccadilly. Preview until August 19, 7.30pm, mat 2.50pm. Press night Aug 20, 7.30pm, then in repertoire, £4.50-£15.50.

★ **KISS ME KATE:** After its national tour the RSC production opens in town with Paul Jones and Nicholas McCall.
Old Vic Theatre, Waterloo Road, SE1 (01-928 7816). Tube: Waterloo. Mon-Fri 7.30-10.30pm. Sat 7.45-10.45pm. mats Wed 3-5.30pm and Sat 5-7.30pm. £2-12.50.

★ **MARY ROSE:** Amanda Waring in the title role of Barrie's affecting play about ghosts, motherly love and a Highland island.
Greenwich Theatre, Oldfords Hill SE10 (01-858 7755). Station: Greenwich. Tonight 7.45pm. Press night Aug 17 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat 7.45pm. mats Wed 3-5.30pm. £2-12.50.

★ **PUBLIC ENEMY:** The promising new Renaissance Theatre Company opens with Kenneth Branagh playing the lead in his own drama about the gangster, Al Capone.
Theatre, King Street, W6 (01-912 2222).

TOP FILMS AND VIDEOS

LONDON:
(1) The Living Daylights
(2) Black Widow
(3) The Untouchables
(4) The Untouchables
(5) Secret of My Success
(6) Jean de Florette
(7) Something Wild
(8) Radio Days
(9) Police Academy IV
(10) The Untouchables
Supplied by Screen International

OUTSIDE LONDON:
(1) The Living Daylights
(2) The Untouchables
(3) The Untouchables
(4) Police Academy IV
(5) Crocodile Dundee
Supplied by Screen International

741 2311). Tube: Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 7.45-10pm, mats Wed 2.30-4.45pm and Sat 4-6.15pm. £2-10.

★ **SERIOUS MONEY:** Caryl Churchill's searing musical play about the Big Bang transfers after a sell-out run at the Royal Court. Wyndham Theatre, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (01-636 3028). Tube: Leicester Square. Mon-Thurs 8-10.30pm. Fri and Sat 8.15-10.45pm. mats Fri 5-7.30pm and Sat 4-8.30pm. £5-£15.50.

★ **THREE MEN ON A HORSE:** Marvellously funny and irreverent comedy. Geoffrey Hughes and company joined by Toyah Wilcox for this National Theatre transfer.
Vivian Theatre, Strand, WC2 (01-636 9988). Tube: Charing Cross. Preview Mon-Fri 8-10.15pm. Sat 8.30-10.45pm. mats Wed 3-5.15pm and Sat 5-7.15pm. £4-£11.50.

★ **WHEN I WAS A GIRL, I USED TO DREAM AND SHOUT:** Dawn French and Sharon Duce as two adolescent girls eagerly entering the remarkable world of Scottish song. Generally successful transfer from the Bush.
Whitehall Theatre, Whitehall, SW1 (01-520 1775, cc 01-375 6666). Tube: Charing Cross/Embankment. Mon-Thurs 8-10pm. Fri and Sat 8.15-10.45pm. mats Fri and Sat 8-9pm. £2.50-£13.50.

★ **LONG RUNNERS:** The Business of Murder. Mayfair Theatre (01-628 3078). • Cate Newson London Theatre (01-408 0472, cc 01-408 3078). • Chess: Prince Edward Theatre (01-734 8951). • The 42nd Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. Mayfair Theatre (01-628 3078).

★ **POLICE ACADEMY IV:** Further adventures of the cops. Palace Theatre (01-536 6111, cc 01-536 6111). • Las Vegas: Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913/4). • Las Vegas: Adelphi Theatre (01-240 7913/4).

★ **RADIO DAYS:** Woody Allen's sweet, delicate tapestry of Brooklyn families, broadcasters and Manhattan's changing hopes and dreams at the end of the 1930s.
Odeon Haymarket (01-530 2738). Progs 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45, 11.15.

★ **THE SECRET OF MY SUCCESS:** PG Moore's play about a man who helps a woman to escape from a life of poverty and despair.
Canon Baker Street (01-636 5772). Progs 1.15, 3.30, 5.50, 8.15, 8.35, 10.55.

★ **SOMETHING WILD:** An insatiable lady takes a yuppie for a joyride, then her ex-husband turns up.
Canon Baker Street (01-636 5772). Progs 1.15, 3.30, 5.50, 8.15, 8.35, 10.55.

★ **SCARBOROUGH:** Spokenword. The story of the pushbike told as a musical. Catchy tunes.
Stephen Joseph Theatre in the Old Vic, Scarborough (01723 570541). Tonight 8-10.50pm. £4.50.

★ **SUPERMAN IV:** Superman now flying under new management.
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FILMS

★ Also on national release
★ Advance booking possible

★ **THE ARISTOCATS (R):** Re-issue of the Disney Studio's 1930 cartoon.
Canon Baker Street (01-636 5772). Progs 1.05, 3.05, 5.00, 6.55, 8.50. Canon Baker Street (01-636 5772). Progs 1.05, 3.05, 5.00, 6.55, 8.50, 8.45, 11.15.

★ **BLACK WIDOW (15):** A homicidal psychopath kills several wealthy husbands, and is investigated by the Justice Department.
Canon Baker Street (01-636 5772). Progs 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45, 11.15. Canon Baker Street (01-636 5772). Progs 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45, 11.15.

★ **JEAN DE FLORETTE (PG):** Absorbing, beautifully acted version of Marcel Pagnol's novel about Provence in the 1920s.
Canon Baker Street (01-636 5772). Progs 1.15, 3.30, 5.50, 8.30.

★ **THE LIVING DAYLIGHTS (PG):** Timothy Dalton leads a distinguished force of the dark about the fate of James Bond.
Odeon Leicester Square (01-530 6111). Progs 1.30, 4.30, 7.45, 11.15.

★ **THE MAN FROM MAJORCA (15):** See caption.
Canon Baker Street (01-636 5772). Progs 1.35, 3.45, 5.55, 8.05, 10.15.

★ **POLICE ACADEMY IV:** Further adventures of the cops.
Palace Theatre (01-536 6111, cc 01-536 6111).

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Of the dozens of musicians involved in the various jazz events at Edinburgh over the next week, the American clarinetist and saxophonist Bob Wilber (above right) seems likely to assume the highest profile. As musical director of the Edinburgh International Jazz Festival, he is responsible for a remarkable variety of events featuring players predominantly from the traditional and mainstream fields, beginning with a grand opening parade of 20 floats carrying bands through the city on Sunday, starting at 2pm. On Wednesday at the Usher Hall, at the helm of his own big band, Wilber performs a tribute to Benny Goodman, sharing the bill with the Kansas City All Stars, an outfit combining the illustrious identities of Jay McShann (above



left), Harry Edison, Buddy Tate, Al Casey and others. In between times, Wilber and the various All Stars appear at various venues in numerous configurations. Recreations of Preservation Hall and the Cotton Club are also on the agenda, along with a Jazz Big Top, and British bands on hand include the familiar names of Bill, Lytle and Tracy. Moderates are looked after by Ronny McKechnie, a series of late-night events at Queen's Hall featuring the entertaining blues guitarist and singer Louisiana Red. Al Blakey's Jazz Messengers are the weekend's stars, followed on Thursday by Charlie Haden's Liberation Music Orchestra and on Friday by the group of the popular Norwegian saxophonist Jan Garbarek. Richard Williams

ROCK

★ **ALBERT KING:** Although he tends to keep his backing band in the dark about the choice of songs, he is a material to be played, and suffers from a tendency towards over-extended, hazy solos.

★ **RADIO DAYS (PG):** Woody Allen's sweet, delicate tapestry of Brooklyn families, broadcasters and Manhattan's changing hopes and dreams at the end of the 1930s.

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DANCE

★ **ROMEO AND JULIET:** Frederick Ashton's richly poetic production for London Festival Ballet.

★ **RADIO DAYS (PG):** Woody Allen's sweet,

TELEVISION AND RADIO

BBC1

- 6.00 **Cee-fax AM**.
6.35 **Leon Errol in One Live Ghost** (b/w). 6.55 **Weather**.
7.00 **Breakfast** Time includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.45 and 8.25.
8.35 **The Pink Panther** cartoon. (r). 8.55 **Regional news** and weather.
9.00 **News and weather** 9.05 **Children's BBC Magazine** programme presented by **Toby Brain** beginning with a **Boss Cat** cartoon (r) and including at 9.30 **Record Breakers** in which 90 people attempt the world record skipping rope jumps. Presented by **Roy Castle** (r).
10.00 **News and weather** 10.05 **Neighbours** (r). 10.25 **Play School** followed by **The Parthenon** (r).
10.55 **Five to Eleven** with children from **Strand-on-the-Green Junior School** 11.00 **News and weather** 11.05 **Zorro's Fighting Legion** (b/w). The final episode of the adventure serial 11.30 **The World of Wildlife**. A day in the life of a zebra family by the **Ngorongoro crater, Tanzania** (r).
12.00 **News and weather** 12.05 **Bonanza**. **Little Joe and Candy** win an ore-processing mill in a poker game some of the players have a beautiful partner. 12.55 **Regional news and weather**.
1.00 **One O'Clock News** with **Philip Hayton**. **Daphne** receives another offer she can't refuse.
1.50 **International Golf**. **Harry Carpenter** introduces second round action in the **Benson and Hedges International** from the **Fulford Golf Club, York**.
4.10 **Health** and **Marmalade**. Cartoon series (r).
4.30 **Galloping Galaxies** Comedy series set in the 25th century (r).
4.55 **Newsround** 5.00 **Gentle Ben**. Outdoor adventures of a young man with a pet bear. (Cee-fax) 5.35 **Roland Rat - The Series**. The guests are **Stanley Unwin** and **Utravox** (r).
6.00 **Six O'Clock News** with **Nicholas Whitwell** and **Andrew Harvey**. **Weather**.
6.30 **London Plus**.
7.00 **Wogan**. The guests on this Elvis tribute edition are **Jools Holland**, **David Stanley**, **Suzanna Leigh** and **Elvis** look-alike, **Jimmy White**. Music is provided by **Squeeze**. Plus, **Terry** takes a photograph for the **Search 88 Cancer Campaign**.
7.40 **Every Second Counts**. Comedy quiz game.
8.10 **Dynasty**. **Leslie** is taken aback by the animosity shown to her by her boyfriend's father. (Cee-fax).
9.00 **Five O'Clock News** with **Julia Somerville** and **Andrew Harvey**. **Regional news and weather**.
9.30 **The Life and Loves of a She Devil**. The final episode of the dramatization of **Fay Weldon's** novel. (r). (Cee-fax).
10.30 **Omnibus at the Proms** introduced by **Jane Glover**. **Isaiah Jackson**, in his first British concert appearance, conducts the **BBC Concert Orchestra** in **Rachmaninov's Rhapsody** on a **Theme of Paganini**, soloist, pianist **Philip Martin**, and **Aaron Copland's Dance Symphony**.
11.30 **The Cardiff Searchlight**. **Tobias**, **Alan Williams** describes the scene at **Cardiff Castle**.
12.10 **Film: Mongo's Back in Town** (1971) starring **John Don Baker**, **Sally Field** and **Telly Savalas**. A **Caribbean** introduction about a notorious hired killer who arrives back in his home town. Who is his intended victim? Directed by **Marvin Chomsky**.
1.30 **Weather**.

BBC2

- 6.55 **Open University: Science** - The **Fabric of Life**. Ends at 7.20.
9.00 **Cee-fax**. 1.20 **Postman Pat** (r). 1.35 **Cee-fax**.
2.00 **News and weather** followed by **Transit**. A preview of the programme to be shown at 7.25.
2.15 **Racing from Newbury**. The 2.30, 3.00, 3.30 and 4.00 races. Includes news and weather at 2.30 and 3.50.
4.10 **Approximately International Golf**. Second round action in the **Benson and Hedges International** from **Fulford Golf Club, York**.
6.00 **Film: Terzan's Greatest Adventure** (1959) starring **Robert Scott**, **Sean Connery** and **Anthony Quayle**. The jungle hero is on the trail of a gang of desperate criminals searching for a hidden diamond mine in the **Amazon jungle**. Directed by **John Guillermin**.
7.25 **Transit** presented by **Mike Smith** and **Vivien Greengard**. From **Silverstone**, the winners of the **British Superbike** Trophy meeting; from **Ashton Court, Bristol**, news from the first day of the **international Balloon Fiesta**. Plus, a review of **Cowes Week** and results from the **Faithful Race**.
8.00 **Face the Music**. A 1983 edition of the music quiz presented by **Joseph Cooper**. The guest is **Elizabeth Schwarzkopf** and on the panel are **Prunella Scales**, **Richard Baker** and **Robert Ray** (r). **Gardener's World**. **Geoff Hamilton** and **Roy Lancaster** visit **William West's garden** in **Northampton, North Devon**.
9.00 **Film: The Clay Pigeon** (1984) starring **Bill Williams** and **Barbara Hale**. Drama about a sailor, recovering from amnesia, who faces a court martial for colluding with the Japanese during the **Second World War**. Directed by **Richard Fleischer**. Ends at 12.20.
10.30 **News and weather**.
11.10 **Film: The Clay Pigeon** (1984) starring **Bill Williams** and **Barbara Hale**. Drama about a sailor, recovering from amnesia, who faces a court martial for colluding with the Japanese during the **Second World War**. Directed by **Richard Fleischer**. Ends at 12.20.
12.20 **News and weather**.
1.30 **Weather**.

ITV LONDON

- 6.00 **TV-am** presented by **Caroline Righthorpe** and **Mike Morris**. News at 6.00 and 6.30; financial news at 6.35; sport at 6.40; and exercises at 6.55.
7.00 **Good Morning Britain** with **Kate Burley** and **Mike Morris**. News at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; cartoon at 7.25; sport at 7.40; and pop music at 7.55. Plus, **Jimmy Greaves's** television highlights.
8.25 **Weekend with Timmy Mallett** and **Michaela Strachan**.
9.25 **Thames news headlines**.
9.30 **Stacey** (r). 10.00 **Jack Holborn**. The final episode of the captain and his twin brother, the judge, come face-to-face in **Bristol Law Courts** (r). 10.30 **University Challenge**. The week's two winners meet for a place in the quarter-finals.
11.00 **Fat Tulp Too** (r). 11.10 **Rainbow**. Learning with the help of puppets. 11.20 **Thames**. News headlines 11.30 **The Running Programme**. The first of a new six-part coaching for beginners and somebody in the past series presented by **Cat Temple**, a senior coach and athletics correspondent of the **Sunday Times** 12.00 **Winner Takes All**. General knowledge quiz presented by **Geoffrey Wheeler** assisted by **Vicky McDonald**.
12.30 **News with John Suchet** 12.50 **Thames news**.
1.00 **Film: Jacqueline** (1956, b/w) starring **John Gargery**. Comedy drama about an easy-going Irishman working in the Belfast shipyards whose fear of heights drives him to drink. Directed by **Roy Baker**.
3.00 **Film: The Country Girl** (1954) starring **John Gargery**. Comedy drama about a rebellious country girl who has an untapped talent to be a literary giant. Featuring five songs, adapted by **Philip Dunne**. Ends at 3.30.
4.00 **Rainbow**. A repeat of the programme shown at 11.10 4.15 **5000 Miles** (r). 4.30 **Andrew O'Connor's Joke Machine** 4.35 **Inspector Gadget** 5.00 **Bellamy's Bugle**. Nature conservation series presented by **David Bellamy**.
5.15 **Ask Me Questions**. Quiz game with no questions.
5.45 **News with Fiona Armstrong**.
6.00 **Thames Weekend News**.
6.15 **Police 5** with **Shaw Taylor**.
6.30 **Danny Baker's Londoners**. In this first of a new series **Danny Baker** searches for the truth about London's villains.
7.00 **People Do the Funniest Things**. **Jeremy Beadle** introduces a selection of clips that were intended to stay on the cutting-room floor (r).
7.45 **International Athletics**. The **Miller Lite/LAC International** from **Crystal Palace**. The commentators are **Alan Parry** and **John Long**.
9.00 **The Professionals: Operation Sussie**. Two students are known to be drug smugglers. Why does somebody in high places want their case to be dealt with quietly? Starring **Gordon Jackson**, **Martin Shaw** and **Lewis Collins** (r).
10.00 **News at Ten** with **Alastair Burnet** and **Alastair Stewart**. Followed by **LWT news**.
10.30 **A Tribute to Elvin Presley**. **Late Mike Tandy** (r). The 10th anniversary of the death of the singer, a non-stop presentation of his music from an array of rock artists including **Edgar Brouke**, **Roger Daltrey**, **Dave Edmunds**, **Mottos**, **Ruby Turner**, **Kim Wilde** and the **Inspirational Choir**.
12.30 **Film: Wild in the Country** (1961) starring **Steve Prosser** as a rebellious country boy who has an untapped talent to be a literary giant. Featuring five songs, adapted by **Philip Dunne**. Ends at 12.50.

CHANNEL 4

- 6.55 **Open University: Science** - The **Fabric of Life**. Ends at 7.20.
9.00 **Cee-fax**. 1.20 **Postman Pat** (r). 1.35 **Cee-fax**.
2.00 **News and weather** followed by **Transit**. A preview of the programme to be shown at 7.25.
2.15 **Racing from Newbury**. The 2.30, 3.00, 3.30 and 4.00 races. Includes news and weather at 2.30 and 3.50.
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10.30 **News and weather**.
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12.20 **News and weather**.
1.30 **Weather**.

A night to remember

Fionnuala Murphy and Jason Phipps as they appear in *It's Our World: Debs* (Channel 4, 8.15pm)

story rather more successfully than the torpid staging. Noise level is always a problem at parties but the muted sound mix here rather spoils the atmosphere of what is meant to be a full-blooded bash.

● A recommendation for *The Golden Girls* (CA, 10.00pm) because it demonstrates, like its predecessor, *Cheers*, that in America middle-of-the-road sitcoms are in better shape than their British equivalents, which still rely overmuch

Chris Pettit

TELEVISION CHOICE

● *It's Our World* (CA, 8.15pm) is a series of six half-hour dramas from the British Isles, Japan and Israel, designed to reflect the daily concerns of young people, and it is unusual in that the stories were conceived and developed by youth drama groups. *Debs*, a sort of cut-price *American Graffiti*, is set in Eire and centres around the traditional dance that marks school-leaving. In this instance, the boys at a party are very obviously those universal ones of sex and alcohol. For all its formal dress, the party is a predictably callow affair of excess, backbiting, flumming, posturing, fluffed passes, and misunderstandings, all to the accompaniment of a band that plays a stunningly dreadful version of "Dion's 'Wanderer'". The acting by the Dublin Youth Theatre is fine, particularly that of Edeas Williams as the bully Fergus, and carries the unfocused

Radio 1

MF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
6.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
7.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
7.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
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4.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
5.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
5.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.

Radio 2

MF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
6.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
7.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
7.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
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5.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
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6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.

Radio 3

MF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
6.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
7.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
7.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
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5.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
5.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.

Radio 4

MF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
6.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
7.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
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5.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.

Radio 5

MF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
6.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
7.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
7.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
8.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
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5.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
5.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.

Radio 6

MF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
6.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
7.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
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5.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
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6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.

Radio 7

MF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
6.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
7.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
7.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
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6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.

Radio 8

MF (medium wave). Stereo on VHF (see below).
6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
6.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
7.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
7.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
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5.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
5.30 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.
6.00 **Breakfast** with **John Peel**.

upon humour of the mother-in-law variety. The wit here is dazzling by comparison. Tonight **Dorothy**, **Blanche** and **Belle** have a chance of meeting **Burt Reynolds**. Of one of Reynolds's least taxing film roles, it is remarked, "You put Mr Laurence Olivier in *The Cannonball Run* and see what he could do." In spite of this backhanded compliment, **Burt** puts in a sporting appearance.

● *Concert* (continued). **Smetana** (Vienna symphonic poem). **Coast PO under Karl Anzani**. **Richard (Wind Quinlan in A. Op 91 No 5: Academicus Wind Quinlan**. **Bransford** (Hungarian Dances Nos 18 to 21, orchestrated by **Dvorak**). **Vienna PO under Claudio Abbado**.
● *World Service News*.
● *This Week's Composer*. **Tchaikovsky**. **Swiss**. **Richard (Wind Quinlan in A. Op 91 No 5: Academicus Wind Quinlan**. **Bransford** (Hungarian Dances Nos 18 to 21, orchestrated by **Dvorak**). **Vienna PO under Claudio Abbado**.
● *World Service News*.
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● *World Service News*.
● *This Week's*

Hospital theatres hit by nursing crisis

By Jill Sherman

Operating theatres in two leading London teaching hospitals have had to be closed because of critical nursing shortages and staff exhaustion.

St Thomas's Hospital in south London has been forced to close five of its 12 theatres, and University College Hospital in central London is to close one of its five theatres on September 2 because nurses are suffering from stress and overwork.

Both hospitals said that they could cope with most emergency cases but that routine operations would be added to already lengthy waiting lists.

Dr Jean Ormrod, a UCH consultant anaesthetist, said the hospital now had a 25 per cent vacancy rate for specially trained theatre nurses.

"Nurses have been working overtime as agency nurses to cope with the extra workload,

Smear test standards.....2

but they have been doing too much and we are getting to the stage where we cannot safely keep all our theatres open", Dr Ormrod said.

All surgical specialities would suffer a 20 per cent reduction in their operating lists. "Trained theatre nurses and operating department assistants are essential members of the surgical team, and it is high time their skills were recognized."

A senior theatre nurse, Miss Ann Porter, confirmed that nurses had been falling ill through stress and fatigue, because they were doing extra agency work at the hospital.

For the first time, not one of the nurses doing a one-year theatre training course at UCH this year has applied for a post at the hospital, she said.

"Nurses find it too expensive to stay in London and they cannot find any suitable accommodation that they can afford."

Miss Liz Winder, unit general manager at St Thomas's, said the hospital has 32 vacancies for theatre nurses and assistants out of a complement of 140.

She said that she also encouraged nurses who wanted to earn extra money to work for the agency based at St Thomas's. "This enables us to employ nurses we know as well as allowing me to keep an eye on their workload."

Any nurse employed at St Thomas's is allowed to do only one extra eight-hour day shift, or a 10-hour night shift, but Miss Winder said that she could not prevent a few nurses working on both their days off for other agencies.

The 30-bed orthopaedic ward at the Royal Berkshire Hospital in Reading is to close for two weeks while consultants are away on holiday.

Five wards at the Queen Alexandra Hospital near Portsmouth are also to close for the holiday.

Watership Down writer looks back in sadness



Richard Adams taking a nostalgic walk down the beloved estate yesterday with his pet dog Tetter after it was announced it had been sold for £5 million (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

By Christopher Warren

The day the bulldozers came, the colony of rabbits led by Hazel, Fiver, Bigwig moved out of their doomed warren and after an epic journey won their fight for survival when they settled at Watership Down, as chronicled by the author, Richard Adams.

They and their descendants will, it must be hoped, be left undisturbed by the latest news from Watership Down in Hampshire — its sale to a redempt and unnamed London businessman for about £5 million.

The news of the sale leaves Mr Adams, who knew the down in boyhood and was inspired to write the rabbit saga, unmoved. But what has happened to Watership Down since he wrote about the furry denizens of the estate's acres of woodland almost reduces him to tears.

He said yesterday: "I often trouble at the effect I have had on Watership Down. When I was a boy you could go anywhere you pleased, but now the estate is fenced with unclimbable fences, with notices telling you to keep out. I could weep. It is so sad that this has happened. Now there is just a little walk to the rabbits' wood, and instructions to go no further."

The estate covers 2,230 acres, and includes two arable farms, nine cottages and stretches of woodland where not only rabbits live but pheasant and partridge are reared for shooting.

Meanwhile the tenant farmer on the estate, Mr Andrew Davis, may be feeling a bit like the displaced rabbits. He is looking around for a new farm.

Thatcher campaign goes on

Continued from page 1

Mr David Montgomery, former editor of the *News of the World* and now editor of *Today*, said the issue of Press freedom was not paramount.

Mr Brian Whitaker, the editor of *News on Sunday*, and the newspaper's publishers were yesterday charged with contempt of court for printing extracts from *Spycatcher*.

The *Sunday Times* is to press for an urgent full hearing of whether the ban on publication should continue in the wake of the law lords' published reasons.

Mr Andrew Neil, the editor, said that even those law lords in favour of the ban being maintained had "stressed" the need for a full and speedy trial.

Mr Ken Dodd, executive editor of *The Guardian*, said he was "with Lord Bridge all the way", particularly over his remarks that the ban was first step down the road to totalitarianism.

Quest for peace in Central America

Ortega in surprise trip to meet Castro

From Our Correspondent Managua

President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua has left for Cuba to discuss the recently signed Central American peace agreement with Dr Fidel Castro, the Cuban leader.

Señor Ortega said he would discuss the withdrawal of all Cuban military advisers and foreign military bases with President Castro. There are an estimated 700 military advisers in Nicaragua.

He said he had talks with President Oscar Arias of Costa Rica and President Vinicio Cerezo of Guatemala by tele-

phone on Wednesday about his surprise trip. He described the results of the conversation as positive.

"If there are any fall-outs it should be positive fall-outs," Father Miguel D'Escoto, the Foreign Minister, said in reply to a reporter's question. "It shows Nicaragua's willingness to gain support for these peace agreements."

The Nicaraguan Government suffered a severe backlash in 1984, when Señor Ortega took off for Moscow immediately after a US congressional vote against Contra funding.

President Ortega emphasized that the trip was not to ask Dr Castro for permission for Nicaraguan actions, but to engage his support for the peace process.

Reporters were summoned to the airport on Wednesday without being informed why. There was much speculation as planes arrived from Costa Rica. Some put their bets on the return of the former Contra leader, Señor Eden Pastora.

Apart from the Foreign Minister, the Information Minister, Señor Manuel Espinosa, the Deputy Foreign Minister, Señor Victor Hugo

Tinoco, and the Sandinista international relations chief, Señor Julio López, accompanied the President to Cuba. It is not known how long the Nicaraguans will stay.

A high-level Government delegation, headed by Vice-President Sergio Ramírez, was off President Ortega.

Señor Ramírez said the Government was taking the "necessary legal steps" to reopen the opposition newspaper *La Prensa* and the Catholic Radio Station, as required in the democratization process under the peace agreement.

Telephone call charges frozen for a year

Continued from page 1

crease charges for overseas calls.

"Overseas calls are BT's fastest growing service, showing an increase of 11 per cent in number in the last financial year," he said. "This sort of growth should be enough to finance any expansion that BT needs."

BT said it was introducing two new direct debit budget account schemes across the

country to make it easier for customers to meet their telephone bills.

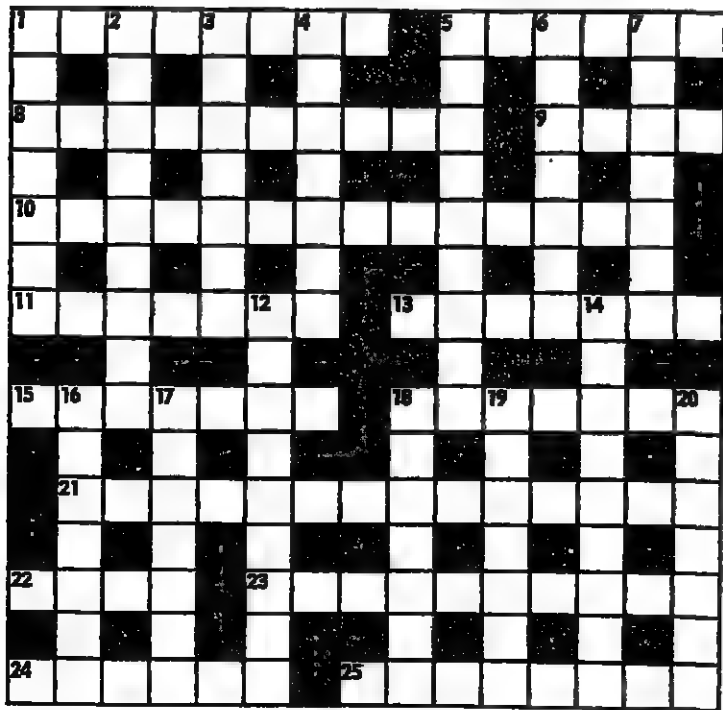
They will be able to open a budget account funded by a monthly direct debit from their bank accounts, which will be adjusted if the payments are either insufficient or excessive. There will also be a quarterly direct debit scheme, where the entire bill is paid in a single bank transaction.

Other charges going up in November are:

An average rise of 2.3 per cent in the cost of international direct-dialled calls.

Calls to the United States will rise on average by 2.9 per cent, but charges to some European countries will fall, and economy rate call charges to Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong and Singapore will be reduced.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,435



ACROSS

- 1 Sort of organs going cheap (3,1,4).
- 5 One playing an unimportant role can in turn show spirit (6).
- 8 A safari, etc, could wander here (4,6).
- 9 There's money in oil, I reckon (4).
- 10 How one should not be ashamed to delay the boss (4,2,4,4).
- 11 They're intended for smoking jackets (7).
- 12 Hankered to embrace you, we bear, but did nothing (7).
- 15 A way to sit a horse (7).
- 18 Doing the rounds with a doctor, one with a speciality (7).
- 21 Though volatile, nitre can remain a salt (7,7).
- 22 Choose to hear (4).
- 23 Lecture, and grow fond of the job (4,2,4,4).
- 24 One working at a bank counter (6).
- 25 Song-book — why you'll hear music from it (8).

DOWN

- 1 One just starting course is not so tired (7).
- 2 I re-enlist, undergoing training, ready to make a come-back (9).
- 3 Measurement — the figure's about right (7).
- 4 Coming from Paris, you must follow directions and run on edge (7).
- 5 In numbers Beyore, perhaps, and Kanga's child get instruction here (9).
- 6 Coward, one penned up in man o' war (7).
- 7 A game cut short (7).
- 12 Minorable communication from Russia (3-6).
- 14 Deciding finally to take part again in fruit production (9).
- 16 Winning, being polite about one's upset (7).
- 17 Article amended part of the deed (7).
- 18 Not 'tutful, like one Venus (7).
- 19 Vessel housing a navy flier (4-3).
- 20 Prison official going north in the country (7).

Concise Crossword, page 14

WEATHER

A showery airstream will affect northern parts of the UK. Over northern and western Scotland the day will start cloudy with a few showers, later becoming heavier. Winds will reach gale strength at times. Over Northern Ireland and south-west Scotland, it will be dry with some bright intervals followed by showers later. Over remaining parts of Scotland, northern England, Northern Ireland and the Isle of Man, it will be a mainly dry day with sunny intervals developing. Over the rest of the country it will be dry and sunny after the clearance of any overnight mist. Outlook for the weekend: a dry bright start with some sunny spells at first but rain soon spreading east.

ABROAD

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Ajaccio	22	21	20	19	18
Alexandria	22	21	20	19	18
Algiers	22	21	20	19	18
Amman	22	21	20	19	18
Antwerp	22	21	20	19	18
Athens	22	21	20	19	18
Bahia	22	21	20	19	18
Batavia	22	21	20	19	18
Bombay	22	21	20	19	18
Buenos Aires	22	21	20	19	18
Calcutta	22	21	20	19	18
Canton	22	21	20	19	18
Cebu	22	21	20	19	18
Colon	22	21	20	19	18
Hankow	22	21	20	19	18
Hong Kong	22	21	20	19	18
Kobe	22	21	20	19	18
London	22	21	20	19	18
Lyons	22	21	20	19	18
Manila	22	21	20	19	18
Medan	22	21	20	19	18
Osaka	22	21	20	19	18
Paris	22	21	20	19	18
Peking	22	21	20	19	18
Rangoon	22	21	20	19	18
San Francisco	22	21	20	19	18
Singapore	22	21	20	19	18
Sourabaya	22	21	20	19	18
Tientsin	22	21	20	19	18
Yokohama	22	21	20	19	18

AROUND BRITAIN

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
London	22	21	20	19	18
Birmingham	22	21	20	19	18
Cardiff	22	21	20	19	18
Edinburgh	22	21	20	19	18
Glasgow	22	21	20	19	18
Liverpool	22	21	20	19	18
Manchester	22	21	20	19	18
Newcastle	22	21	20	19	18
Nottingham	22	21	20	19	18
Sheffield	22	21	20	19	18
Sunderland	22	21	20	19	18
Swansea	22	21	20	19	18
Torquay	22	21	20	19	18
Wrexham	22	21	20	19	18

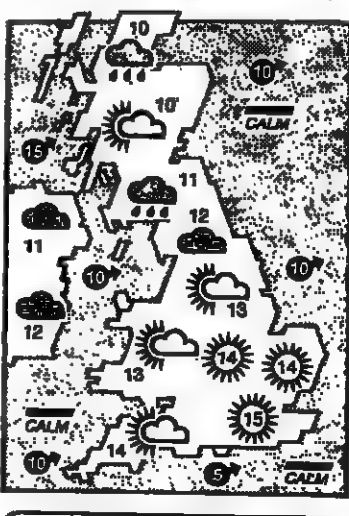
HIGH TIDES

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
London	22	21	20	19	18
Birmingham	22	21	20	19	18
Cardiff	22	21	20	19	18
Edinburgh	22	21	20	19	18
Glasgow	22	21	20	19	18
Liverpool	22	21	20	19	18
Manchester	22	21	20	19	18
Newcastle	22	21	20	19	18
Nottingham	22	21	20	19	18
Sheffield	22	21	20	19	18
Sunderland	22	21	20	19	18
Swansea	22	21	20	19	18
Torquay	22	21	20	19	18
Wrexham	22	21	20	19	18

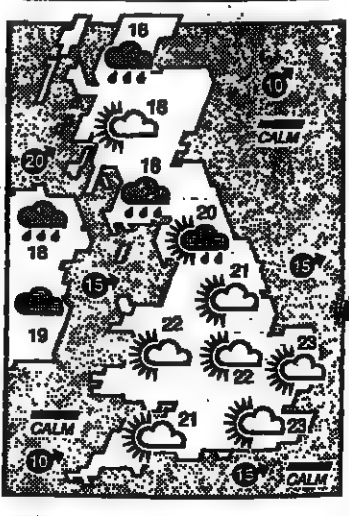
THE POUND

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
London	22	21	20	19	18
Birmingham	22	21	20	19	18
Cardiff	22	21	20	19	18
Edinburgh	22	21	20	19	18
Glasgow	22	21	20	19	18
Liverpool	22	21	20	19	18
Manchester	22	21	20	19	18
Newcastle	22	21	20	19	18
Nottingham	22	21	20	19	18
Sheffield	22	21	20	19	18
Sunderland	22	21	20	19	18
Swansea	22	21	20	19	18
Torquay	22	21	20	19	18
Wrexham	22	21	20	19	18

AM



PM



LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 8.56 pm to 5.15 am
Bristol 8.06 pm to 5.25 am
Edinburgh 8.26 pm to 5.13 am
Manchester 9.11 pm to 5.17 am
Penzance 9.14 pm to 5.41 am

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 8 pm, 22C (72F); min 8 pm to 6 am, 16C (61F) Humidity: 6 pm, 73 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun: 10.15 to 1.15 hr. Sea: 1.7m. Mean sea level, 6 pm, 1010.9 millibars, falling.

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

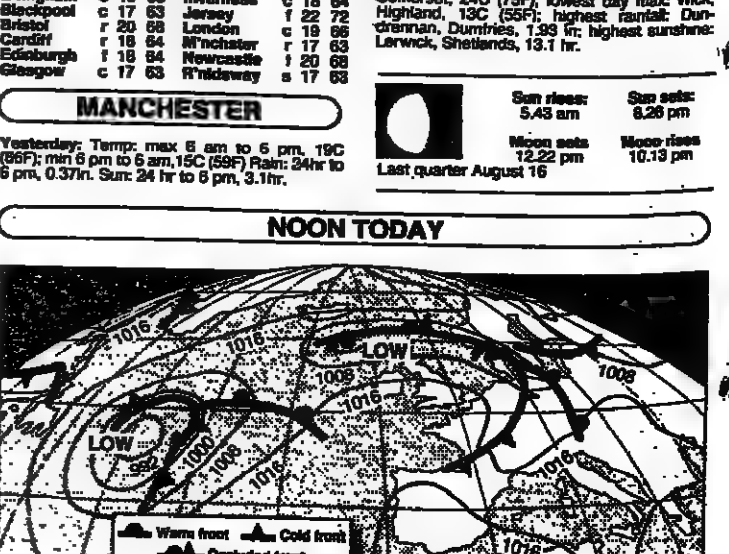
HIGHEST & LOWEST

Wednesday: Highest day temp: Minehead, Somerset, 24C (75F); lowest day temp: Wick, Highland, 13C (55F). Highest night temp: Larnock, Shetland, 13.1 hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 19C (66F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 15C (59F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, 0.37 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 3.1 hr.

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by London Weather Centre

FRIDAY AUGUST 14 1987

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1778.6 (+3.4)
FT-SE 100
2290.1 (+4.0)Bargains
35152 (49620)USM (Datastream)
209.25 (+0.01)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5795 (+0.0005)
W German mark
2.9813 (-0.0030)
Trade-weighted
72.5 (same)Nomura to
trade
in shares

Nomura, the world's largest securities house, has unveiled details of its long-awaited plan to beef up its presence on the London stock market by becoming the first Japanese firm to make markets in selective British equities.

The new market-making team will be headed by Mr Tony White and Mr Keith Rodrigues, both of whom recently resigned from Kinnaird & Aitken's market-making arm. Nomura will start trading as a market-maker in ten days in 10 blue-chip stocks: Allied-Lyons, Becton, British Gas, British Telecom, Cable & Wireless, Fisons, Glaxo, ICI, Jaguar and Reuters.

Bid approach

Shares in Ryan Hotels, the Irish hotel group, jumped 11p to a high of 61p after directors said they had received an approach which could lead to a bid.

Britannia up

Britannia Arrow, the fund management group, raised pre-tax profits 85 per cent to £25.1 million in the first half of the year. Funds under management amounted to £18.5 billion.

Gold record

American Barrick Resources, the Canadian-based gold mining company, reported a record first half for gold production, revenues and earnings. Net income was Can\$10.4 million (Can\$7.1 million).

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2867.68 (+18.34)
Dow Jones	2867.68 (+18.34)
Tokyo	25578.74 (+15.51)
Nikkei Dow	25578.74 (+15.51)
Hong Kong	3614.27 (+43.18)
Hang Seng	3614.27 (+43.18)
Amsterdam Gen	339.3 (-0.4)
Sydney: AO	2104.6 (+12.2)
Frankfurt	2020.1 (-24.5)
Commerzbank	2020.1 (-24.5)
Brussels	5415.2 (+19.9)
General	5415.2 (+19.9)
Paris: CAC	404.8 (+1.5)
Zurich: SIK Gen	585.30 (-2.0)
London: FT. A	n/a
FT. B	86.48 (-0.08)
Recent losses	Page 24
Closing prices	Page 25

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISER:	
Oakwood Group	778p (+30p)
Spring Farm	470p (+20p)
Abbey	460p (+20p)
Dartford	800p (+145p)
Bodycote	387p (+22p)
Appleyard	467p (+32p)
Squirrel Horn	160p (+20p)
Win Collins 'A'	710p (+50p)
James Cropper	300p (+25p)
Gestetner	328p (+20p)
Heavitree	693p (+35p)
Storehouse	180p (+11p)
Marney Docks	180p (+17p)
Rowntree	556p (+18p)
Camford Eng.	282p (+14p)
Wiggins	282p (+14p)
Cositan	354p (+14p)

FALLS:	
Carls	843p (-25p)
Brookmount	780p (-20p)
Bank of Scotland	535p (-19p)
Prices are as at 4pm	

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base:	10%
3-month interbank:	10%-10%
3-month eligible bills:	9%-9.5%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate:	8 1/4%
Federal Funds:	6 1/4%
3-month Treasury bills:	5.94-5.95%
30-year bonds:	9 1/2%-9 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: \$1.5795	£: DM1.8660
£: DM2.9813	£: Sfr2.4743
£: Sfr2.4743	£: FF9.9509
£: FF9.9509	£: Yen202.14
£: Yen202.14	£: Index104.5
£: Index104.5	ECU 80.69498
ECU 80.69498	SDR 20.797254

GOLD

London Fixing:	
AM \$482.00 pm \$482.50	
close \$459.75-460.25 (\$291.00-291.50)	
New York:	
Comex \$450.55-461.15	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Sept) pm \$19.40 lb \$18.45	
* Denotes latest trading price	
Stock Market:	22
Foreign Exch:	24
Tempest:	22
Wall Street:	22
Comment:	23
City Diary:	23
Money Markets:	24

Jobless total
still falling
Adjusted unemployment
figure down by 47,600

By Rodney Lord, Economics Editor

The underlying trend in unemployment figures showed a bigger than usual decline last month. Excluding school leavers, the jobless total fell by 47,600 to 2,877,600 after seasonal adjustment.

Market analysts concerned about the inflationary effect of higher pay settlements were partially reassured when the underlying rate of growth in average earnings in June showed an increase above the 7% per cent year-on-year rate seen in recent months. But unit labour costs accelerated slightly.

The influx of school leavers on to the register raised the overall jobless total last month by 1,128 to 2,906,453. This was 373,141 lower than a year earlier.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Employment, said: "Over the past 12 months there has been an undoubted and dramatic improvement in the employment position. There is no reason why this should not continue, but it is vital that we remain competitive both at home and overseas."

Mr Michael Meacher, the Shadow Employment spokesman, said: "The recent 1 per cent increase in interest rates and a likely further rise probably indicates that the fall in seasonally adjusted unemployment over the last year is now coming to an end and may soon be reversed."

Unemployment has been falling for more than a year and the average drop for the past three months, seasonally adjusted, rose to 46,300 last month compared with 38,200 in June. The numbers out of work fell in all regions, with the biggest percentage decline in the North where unemployment as a percentage of the

UK UNEMPLOYMENT

Seasonally adjusted excluding school leavers

excluding school leavers		
	'000	Change on month
1987 Total		
Feb	3065.8	-48.5
Mar	3039.7	-26.1
Apr	3018.1	-21.6
May	2952.3	-65.8
Jun	2925.2	-27.1
Jul	2877.6	-47.6

labour force fell 0.3 per cent. A total 384,000 people took part in Government employment schemes in June, but that was only 30,000 higher than the same month last year.

Booyancy in the economy is the main reason for the continuing fall in unemployment, according to Department of Employment officials. This is given some support by the signs of revival in manufacturing employment. For the first time in a few years the number of manufacturing jobs showed a small increase over the past three months. Manufacturing jobs rose 10,000 in June after an upwardly revised increase of 7,000 in May.

Industrial stoppages during the first half of the year were at a relatively high level, swelled by the BT dispute and the civil service action. Altogether, 2,904,000 working days were lost in the first six months.

Productivity in manufacturing continued to rise in June, leaving output per head 6.5 per cent above the level of a year earlier.

Bank defends rise
in base rates

By Our Economics Editor

The Bank of England yesterday spelled out the reasons for last week's 1 percentage point rise in base rates and gave a warning of a potential resurgence in inflation.

In its Quarterly Bulletin, the Bank said the immediate prospects for the economy were encouraging. But sustaining a relatively high rate of growth would depend largely on containing and further reducing inflation. This indicated the need to maintain the cautious approach demonstrated by the base rate rise.

The Bank believes the economy is responding well to the high level of demand. Although the May and June trade figures were disappointing, the overall balance on the current account in the first half of the year shows that industry has improved its capacity to meet rising demand.

Manufacturing productivity has been growing strongly because of the high level of output and underlying improvements in economic efficiency. But productivity in the service industries has been rising more slowly, giving cause for concern.

The priority for economic policy, the Bank believes, should be to avoid putting this favourable outlook at risk through higher inflation. The Bank points to a small acceleration in pay settlements during the second quarter and the rise in house prices among other indicators of rising domestic costs.

On the demand side, retail sales are buoyant while credit and the broader measures of the money supply continue to grow rapidly. In view of the effect of intervention in swelling the broader measures of money, the Bank remains relatively relaxed about monetary growth, but the rise in credit weighed heavily in the decision to raise interest rates.

Inflationary pressures are also developing overseas with rising oil and commodity prices and the continuing credit imbalance between the US and West Germany and Japan. The Bank's forecast for growth in the leading economies this year is still 2% per cent.

The timing of the rates rise was explained by the relative weakness of sterling.

Royal Dutch falls
44% to £1.2bn

By Carol Ferguson

The Royal Dutch/Shell group suffered a 44 per cent drop in net income to £1.2 billion for the first six months on a current cost basis, excluding stock profits and losses.

The group blamed higher oil costs and competitive pressure, which cut second-quarter refining margins.

Higher crude prices also allowed higher oil production profits, but not enough to offset the decline downstream.

The company said: "Manufacturing and marketing earnings declined sharply - current margins were squeezed by rising supply costs and increased competitive pressures, a reversal of last year's conditions."

Oil products sales volumes increased 10 per cent in the second quarter, with gasoline sales up 12 per cent and kerosenes and fuel oil up 14 per cent. Volume increases were strong in the US.

The group maintained its cash and short-term securities at £5 billion, but has reduced its debt by £1.3 billion over the last year. The long-term debt ratio stands at 13 per cent, compared with 16 per cent in mid-1986.

On an historical cost basis, the group's first-half net income was up 8 per cent to £1.4 billion. This was due to high stock losses of £955 million in the first half of last year.

Tempest, page 22

BP lifts dividend
despite profit fall

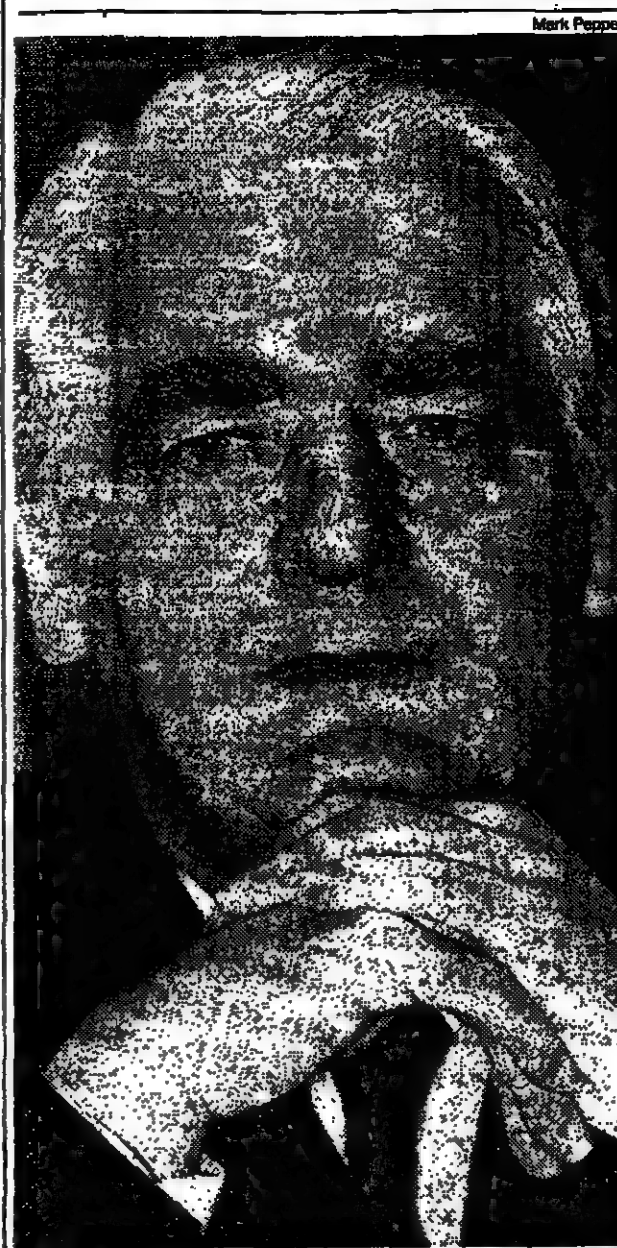
By Our City Staff

British Petroleum increased its interim dividend by 12.5 per cent yesterday in what will almost certainly be its last act of results before the government share sell-off this autumn.

After-tax profits on a replacement cost basis - the measure BP itself prefers to use - slumped by 52 per cent to £584 million in the first half of this year compared with £1,215 million last year. Replacement costs exclude stock profits and losses.

The group blamed the poor performance on weak refining margins and the sterling/dollar exchange rate. Despite more than a halving of net income on a replacement

Insurer's favourable interim results bring 57% rise in dividend



Early payout: Royal's Alan Horsford yesterday

Royal payout
surprise for
shareholders

By Colin Campbell

Royal Insurance yesterday took even the optimists by surprise with its 1987 interim dividend. It is raising its 1987 interim dividend by 57 per cent, from 5.25p to 8.25p, and will be sending out dividend cheques nearly six weeks earlier than usual.

Instead of the usual January payout, the cheques will go out on November 13.

Mr Alan Horsford, chief executive, said the dividend increase was partly to reflect the favourable first-half results, which showed that pre-tax profits had risen from £87.4 million to £158.1 million, and partly to reduce the disparity between interim and final payments.

There was no formal indication of what final dividend might be expected, but Mr Horsford said that the final would be determined by results and it could be presumed that Royal's payment would be well covered.

Royal's profit, which followed results earlier this week from General Accident and Commercial Union, was generally in line with market expectations, but the percentage increase in the dividend was well above even the best expectations.

However, the company's

shares which have run up in recent months ahead of results, yesterday closed 23p lower at 496p.

The group, which covers 2.2 million houses out of an estimated market of 11 million, suffered record weather losses of £70 million in the six months to June 30, of which £56 million occurred in the first quarter.

This hit underwriting results from its British operations and - though pre-tax profits doubled in the April-June quarter from £17.4 million to £34.9 million and an underwriting profit of £8 million - the advance was insufficient to offset the British first-half profit total of £16.2 million, compared with £23.9 million in the corresponding period of the previous year.

The group's underwriting loss in the six months fell from £109.5 million to a £53.6 million loss (£108.8 million for the full 1986 year). Investment income showed an underlying 7 per cent increase to £182.2 million; and worldwide general premium income was 6.4 per cent higher at £1.61 billion.

Mr Horsford said operating conditions in Royal's main markets are not unsatisfactory.

Tempest, page 22

Trafalgar bid for
unit trust fails

By Lawrence Lever

Trafalgar House's £237 million bid for the Pension Fund Property Unit Trust (PFFUT) lapsed yesterday when it failed to secure the necessary 75 per cent majority at a specially convened extraordinary general meeting of unit holders.

Instead, the unit holders - all pension funds - voted to instruct the PFFUT committee of management to move towards incorporating the trust and seeking a public listing.

However, a number of the unit holders made it clear at the meeting that if a better offer was received for the trust in the next few weeks then they would expect to be given the chance to vote on it.

Mr Dennis Marier, the new

PFFUT chairman, said after the meeting that it was likely that this would happen since he had received between 10 and 12 approaches, some of which he thought will turn into formal offers.

The Trafalgar proposals required a 75 per cent majority of votes cast to succeed. In the event, they secured 44.6 per cent support with 53.4 per cent against.

The vote in favour of incorporation - which required only a simple majority - succeeded in securing 55 per cent of the votes. However, if the committee of management get to the stage of putting formal proposals to the 400 unit holders in the trust, this will also require a 75 per cent

London
Securities
plans bid

London Securities yesterday said it intends to make an £80.7 million bid for its fellow property group, Estates Property Investment Company.

However, it will only bid for Epic if an agreement is announced yesterday to buy a further 12.82 per cent of the company goes through.

It has struck a deal with Phoenix Assurance to buy the extra stake, which will bring its holding in Epic up to just over 25 per cent.

London Securities is issuing 9.3 million of its own shares to pay for the stake. The deal is subject to approval from London Securities' shareholders and Inland Revenue clearance.

Akzo nv Registered Office at Arnhem
Report for the 1st half year 1987

Consolidated statement of income

	January-June 1987	January-June 1986
Net sales	7,652.4	8,092.7
Operating costs	(6,984.0)	(7,364.5)
Operating income	668.4	728.2
Financing charges	(85.4)	(80.9)
Operating income less financing charges	613.0	667.3
Taxes	(225.2)	(226.8)
Earnings of consolidated companies from normal operations, after taxes	387.8	440.4
Earnings from nonconsolidated companies	9.4	17.4
Extraordinary items	2.2	24.1
Group income	399.4	481.9
Minority interest	(28.4)	(45.2)
Net income	371.0	436.7
Net income per common share of Hfl 20, in guilders	8.24	10.98
Common stock	802.9	802.8

Sales and income
Net income for the second quarter of 1987 was Hfl 191 million, compared with Hfl 218 million (including a Hfl 24 million extraordinary gain) in the first half of 1986.

The past quarter was characterized by a favorable performance of all product groups, with the exception of man-made fibers, which experienced growing pressure on earnings.

Sales for the second quarter slightly exceeded the first-quarter figure, so that the sales figure for the first half of 1987 was Hfl 7.7 billion, versus Hfl 8.1 billion for the first half of 1986. This is equivalent to a 5% decline. Lower selling prices, caused to a large extent by lower raw material and energy prices being passed on, reduced sales by 4%. A further 4% reduction resulted from currency translation effects. Against this, there was a 2% sales increase attributable to acquisitions, while the sales volume was on balance 1% higher than in the first half of 1986.

Operating income for the second quarter totaled Hfl 339 million, down Hfl 17 million from the figure for the second quarter of 1986. The first half of the year produced an operating income of Hfl 668 million, compared with Hfl 728 million for the prior year period.

The rise in operating income of the other product groups was insufficient to offset the much reduced contribution of the man-made fibers, so that net income was down from Hfl 437 million to Hfl 371 million for the first half of 1987.

Outlook
The changes in exchange rates have had an adverse effect on our international competitive position. This is particularly true with regard to our man-made fibers. We nevertheless expect to achieve a good income figure for the whole of 1987, even if the 1986 earnings level will not be repeated.

Arnhem, August 1987

The Board of Management

Sales and operating income by product group break down as follows

(in millions of guilders):

Sales	1st half year 1987	1st half year 1986	Operating income	1st half year 1987	1st half year 1986
Chemical products	2,112	2,294	Chemical products	227	223
Man-made fibers	1,827	1,853	Man-made fibers	68	168
Coatings	1,215	1,182	Coatings	90	86
Pharmaceuticals	1,105	1,144	Pharmaceuticals	165	163
Consumer products	721	730	Consumer products	47	50
Miscellaneous products	1,002	1,057	Miscellaneous products	85	74
	7,782	8,230		683	744
Intra-Group deliveries	(119)	(137)	Nonallocated items	(15)	(16)
Total	7,652	8,093	Total	668	728

Copies of this report may be obtained from the London Paying Agents: Barclays Bank PLC, Stock Exchange Services Department, 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3 AH and Midland Bank PLC, International Division, Securities Services Department, 10-14 Cannon Street, London EC4N 6 AA. The report for the 3rd quarter of 1987 will be published on November 3, 1987.

Handwritten signature or stamp at the bottom center of the page.

STOCK MARKET

Recovery goes on with small gains

By Michael Clark

The stock market successfully cleared another tricky economic hurdle yesterday, enabling it to extend its recovery in the wake of last week's £25 billion slump.

Another batch of economic figures, following hard on the heels of this week's trade figures, was published by the Government. The unemployment figures, showing another fall in the number out of work,

statistics showing the growth of earnings and industrial production figures all made pleasant reading and were warmly received by the City. This, combined with another firm start to trade on Wall Street, which had been enjoying a record-breaking run this week, enabled share prices to wipe out earlier falls and end the day on a high note. Dealers reported selective

support with figures from the two oil groups, BP and Shell, as expected. The FT index of 30 shares finished 3.4 points up at 1,778.6, having been 13.2 down earlier in the session. The broader FT-SE 100 index also recovered a 16.5 deficit, to end 4.0 points up at 2,290.1.

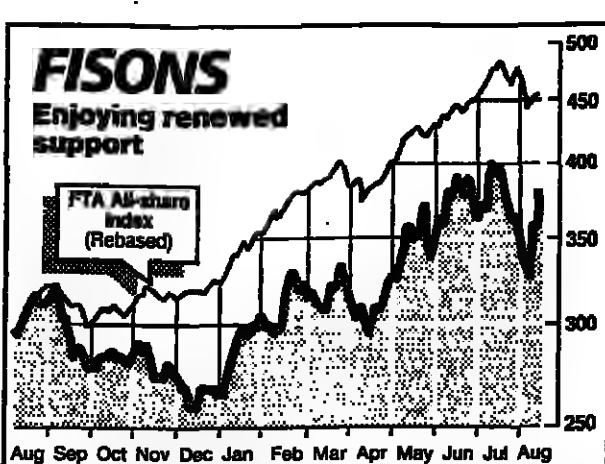
Government securities spent a lacklustre day, with losses of 1/4 at the longer end.

Good gains were reported among the leaders, no doubt helped by the news that Nomura, the Japanese securities house, is starting a market-making side, dealing in 10 top stocks. These include Beecham, up 13p at 557p, British Gas, 2p higher at 182p, Cable & Wireless, 6p dearer at 442p, Glaxo, 21p stronger at £17.91 and ICL, 2p up at £15.15.

Ryan Hotels, the Irish hotel operator, jumped by 11p to 61p after announcing that it had received an approach which might lead to a bid. Talk suggests that there are several suitors, including Trusthouse Forte.

Ratcliffe Industries returned from suspension 30p higher at 190p - a level which surprised a number of dealers. The group recently announced a one-for-one rights issue at 125p to raise £3.7 million.

Little Aram Energy, the Irish oil exploration group, finished 8p better at 81p. The word is the group has just made a



major oil discovery in the Irish Sea. Dealers are bracing themselves for an announcement next week. Dealers said there was some big turnover in the shares yesterday.

Fisons, the pharmaceutical group, recovered from an

early setback to close 2p firmer at 356p, on the back of a strong buy recommendation from Dr John Reeve, a pharmaceutical analyst at Kleinwort Griverson, the broker.

He says that Fisons underperformed the market during the first six months following

the launch of Tilade, its new anti-asthma drug. He blames the absence of encouraging news and the poor weather which has provided sufferers with some relief.

However, he is confident that the group's growth prospects

of 20 to 25 per cent a year remain intact. Dr Reeve says: "Renewed investment interest is already anticipating a series of positive events likely to occur later this year. These should include further introductions in Europe of Tilade, news at the September

interims of Tilade's progress and the first approval for Dopacard."

He is also looking for more overseas interest in the shares. At the last count, foreign investors held just 2 per cent of the equity.

Kleinwort is forecasting a rise in pretax profits of 21 per cent to £45 million at the interim stage followed by £105 million for the full year where the prospective p/e falls to 21.

Tate & Lyle, the Mr Cube sugar producer, held on to a 2p lead, to finish at 847p, despite a downgrading of profits by Phillips & Drew, the broker.

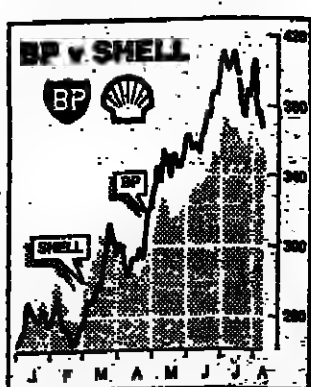
P&D has trimmed its estimate for next year by £5 million to £100 million after studying third-quarter figures from Canada. Mr Christopher Wheeler, a food manufacturing analyst at P&D, says that it is a marginal adjustment and he is still forecasting pretax profits for the current year of £90 million when the group reports in December. Last year it made £81.5 million.

Mr Wheeler said: "There is not too much to go for short-term, so we are not buyers."

Storehouse, produced by the merger between British Home Stores and Habitat Mothercare, jumped 2p to 364p following the reports of a possible bid from Mountleigh. This was in spite of warnings about a bid given by both the Stock Exchange and the Takeover Panel.

TEMPUS

Things still go well with Shell



Royal Dutch/Shell is the mightier company, but British Petroleum is the centre of attention. Yesterday's results were the first since the Standard Oil acquisition and will probably be the last before the Government share sale, if it goes ahead as planned in the autumn.

From BP's perspective, the most important event of the past three months was the acquisition of the minority interest in its American subsidiary, Standard Oil.

The £4.7 billion paid for this purchase was about £2 billion more than the book value of Standard's assets, so BP revalued the assets to reflect this. The depreciation charge will therefore be increased by £200 million a year.

Profits will be penalized, but the all-important cash flow will not, although it is only fair to point out that interest costs have risen.

Ironically, access to Standard's cash flow has enabled BP to reduce the debt raised to make the acquisition much faster than expected. Of the \$5 billion (£3 billion) facility raised to finance the acquisition, the maximum drawn down was \$3.5 billion. This had fallen to \$1.5 billion by end-June.

Nevertheless, BP's total borrowings have risen and the contrast between the respective balance sheets of BP and RD/Shell remains stark.

RD/Shell's gearing on its own measure, the long-term debt ratio, was 13 per cent at the end of June. But if its £5 billion cash mountain is taken into account, the group had virtually no net debt.

On BP's measure of gearing, net debt to equity plus net debt, its debt ratio at mid-year was 38 per cent. On the more stringent measure of net debt to equity, gearing rises to 62 per cent.

After the £1.5 billion rights issue planned to coincide with the Government's sale,

the year-end result could well be in the £410 million to £430 million region. Royal turned out £304.8 million in the 1986 financial year.

From now, though, Royal, in common with others, faces tougher competition, especially in the United States. The hurricane season is also just round the corner, so the investor who does not have his map handy may well feel frightened of the sector when the next one strikes.

Fundamentally, it appears that the dark days of previous years are over, but because the market had already taken the recovery now evident on board, it is hard to see how much further composite insurance shares can run.

When the market is again dividend-led, Royal is an obvious candidate. It also has the attraction of a net asset value, including a valuation of the life fund, of 532p.

A Royal payout

It can no longer be said that insurance companies only take. They also give, as Royal Insurance aptly demonstrated yesterday with a handsome 57 per cent increase in its interim dividend.

The dividend leap in part reflects the declared policy of reducing the disparity between interim and final payments, and in part the better times it has enjoyed.

But for the caveat that a similar percentage increase in the final should not be expected, Royal's shares should have soared ahead. In the event they slipped, as the market - having anticipated the better first half - now peers into 1988 and beyond.

Conditions still look positive in the short term and, after turning in a pretax profit of £110.3 million compared with a depressed £58 million in the first half previously,

the year-end result could well be in the £410 million to £430 million region. Royal turned out £304.8 million in the 1986 financial year.

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WALL STREET

New York (Agencies) - Shares generally achieved moderate gains in early trading yesterday. But blue chips slipped back slightly from earlier rises. These had been prompted by the report of slightly higher-than-expected

retail sales for last month and a sharp upward revision in June's retail sales.

The Dow Jones Industrial average was up by 6 points at 2,675.32 after being ahead by 12 points earlier.

	Aug 12	Aug 11	Aug 10	Aug 9	Aug 8	Aug 7	Aug 6	Aug 5	Aug 4	Aug 3	Aug 2	Aug 1	Jul 31	Jul 30	Jul 29	Jul 28	Jul 27	Jul 26	Jul 25	Jul 24	Jul 23	Jul 22	Jul 21	Jul 20	Jul 19	Jul 18	Jul 17	Jul 16	Jul 15	Jul 14	Jul 13	Jul 12	Jul 11	Jul 10	Jul 9	Jul 8	Jul 7	Jul 6	Jul 5	Jul 4	Jul 3	Jul 2	Jul 1	Jun 30	Jun 29	Jun 28	Jun 27	Jun 26	Jun 25	Jun 24	Jun 23	Jun 22	Jun 21	Jun 20	Jun 19	Jun 18	Jun 17	Jun 16	Jun 15	Jun 14	Jun 13	Jun 12	Jun 11	Jun 10	Jun 9	Jun 8	Jun 7	Jun 6	Jun 5	Jun 4	Jun 3	Jun 2	Jun 1	May 31	May 30	May 29	May 28	May 27	May 26	May 25	May 24	May 23	May 22	May 21	May 20	May 19	May 18	May 17	May 16	May 15	May 14	May 13	May 12	May 11	May 10	May 9	May 8	May 7	May 6	May 5	May 4	May 3	May 2	May 1	Apr 30	Apr 29	Apr 28	Apr 27	Apr 26	Apr 25	Apr 24	Apr 23	Apr 22	Apr 21	Apr 20	Apr 19	Apr 18	Apr 17	Apr 16	Apr 15	Apr 14	Apr 13	Apr 12	Apr 11	Apr 10	Apr 9	Apr 8	Apr 7	Apr 6	Apr 5	Apr 4	Apr 3	Apr 2	Apr 1	Mar 31	Mar 30	Mar 29	Mar 28	Mar 27	Mar 26	Mar 25	Mar 24	Mar 23	Mar 22	Mar 21	Mar 20	Mar 19	Mar 18	Mar 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BSC to seek quota rise as output leaps 20%

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Britain's improving steel industry is producing 20 per cent more metal than a year ago, and providing further proof of increased activity in manufacturing industries.

Latest production figures, showing an average output rate of 274,800 tonnes a week in the first seven months of the year, underline the British Steel Corporation's call on the European Commission for a rise in the production quota set under the EC's steel restructuring programme.

Sir Robert Scholey, the BSC chairman and re-elected president of Eurofer, the European steel makers' group, is making

a bid for higher quotas when they are renegotiated this year. He estimates the BSC's quota shortage is 35,000 tonnes.

The production figures, published today by the BSC and the British Independent Steel Producers' Association, show that output in July averaged 279,700 tonnes a week, a rise of just under 30 per cent on the same month last year.

Much of the increase is attributable to the success and high productivity of the BSC's re-lined blast furnace at Redcar, which has made 3 million tonnes of iron since its reopening a year ago.



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per cent in real demand for steel in Britain. The increase is led by the boom in the construction industry, although the BSC says it is still concerned about demand for flat-rolled products used in the vehicle and white goods industries. The BSC exports 40 per cent of its output.

The increasing output of British steel mills must be seen against the background of gross overcapacity in Europe, estimated by Sir Robert at 30 million tonnes. There was a need, he said recently, for prevention of disruption by imports for as long as instability in the international steel markets persisted.

Trafalgar sells offices for £60m

By Cliff Feltham

Brookmount, the fast expanding USM group, is buying a clutch of properties from the Trafalgar House group and taking over a City firm of chartered surveyors in deals worth more than £73 million.

Trafalgar House — which already has close ties with Brookmount — will pump £20 million into the company in return for a 23 per cent shareholding.

Brookmount, which was floated on the USM early last year and has just disclosed plans to build a national sports stadium, is paying Trafalgar £60 million for 13 office and retail properties which are producing a net rental income of £4.2 million.

Brookmount says the deal enables it to enlarge its investment portfolio with high-quality properties let to well-established tenants and producing good opportunities for growth in rental income.

The deal will be financed by a rights issue at 650p a share to raise £10 million and 3 million new shares issued to Trafalgar House to raise £20 million, with the balance coming from its own borrowings. This will give Trafalgar a 23 per cent stake and yesterday it said there were no plans to increase this holding.

Brookmount is paying £13.5 million for the surveys, Wright Oliphant, which made pre-tax profits of £449,000 for the year ended July 31, 1986, and £859,000 for the nine months to April 30 last.

Can Telecom come in out of the cold?

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

Not many companies can afford to throw away £58 million of revenue which would go straight through to pretax profits: not even a company whose profits are now measured in billions. That, at least, was the stock market's first reaction to BT's freezing domestic prices that could have gone up by a less than sensational 1.2 per cent. BT shares initially fell, though they ended up with a mere 3p drop, much in line with the market. Interestingly, shares in Cable & Wireless edged up against the trend, reflecting some tentative switching in a sector where institutional investors have only a choice of two stocks.

There is an assumption, not seriously challenged by BT's previous behaviour, that where a monopoly utility licence imposes a maximum price formula, that becomes also a minimum price formula. If correct, the question is whether BT has responded to public criticism of its service, mainly reflecting problems on exchanges serving articulate and influential central London folk, or to competition and potential competition from C&W's burgeoning Mercury network.

Despite Sir George Jefferson's disavowals yesterday, a combination of the two is at work. If Mercury rules out business price rises, why court more anger from the public — and disapproval from Ofel — by piling charges on to residential accounts? It would be shortsighted, however, to dismiss the im-

plications of Sir George's official explanation that revenue is buoyant enough to put up an excellent performance for shareholders without scrapping the barrel at an unknown, long-term marketing cost.

Wood Mackenzie, which anticipated the freeze on domestic call charges, is still looking for a 12 per cent rise in BT revenue this year and pretax profits up 11 per cent from £2.07 billion to £2.3 billion. The impact of the freeze would only be felt in 1988-89, when WM is forecasting £2.5 billion profits.

BT shares have fallen by more than fifth from their peak. WM's Patrick Wellington reckons they are very modestly rated on a prospective yield of 4.8 per cent, especially as the institutions are underweight in such an important stock. The most obvious market cloud on the horizon is the Government's freedom to sell its remaining holding after April next year, particularly if plans for electricity privatization become bogged down. Moreover, BT's bad odour among the articulate public inspires worries about possible changes to its licence or more regulatory pressure.

Sir George is making efforts to update some elements of BT's customer service — pushing direct debiting for instance. But the public image is unlikely to improve until BT learns humility — a cheaper but harder adjustment to make than forgoing £58 million of revenue.

Why base rates had to rise

Managing the British economy, like managing a professional football club, is easier when things are going well. With decades of wisdom and observation behind it, the Bank of England knows in its bones that you can have too much of a good thing. Bathed in a post-election glow, the economy is doing exceptionally well and it should continue to improve. But Auntie is inclined to be cautious:

"Although the exchange rate has remained stable," the August *Bulletin* says, "there are some signs of potential inflationary developments... and some developments abroad which threaten to detract from satisfactory growth and to contribute to inflationary pressures. Against this background, the authorities need to maintain the cautious approach displayed by their recent action to tighten monetary policy."

If you have been wondering why bank base rates were forced up to 10 per cent last week, setting off huge falls in share values, now you know. Both Treasury and Bank are holding fast to the view that the biggest single threat to an increasingly healthy and

growing economy is higher inflation. And who is to say they are wrong?

The Bank sees the incipient internal dangers as, first, domestic costs, which are rising distinctly faster than the average of other leading countries. The latest figures for average earnings — an increase of 7.75 per cent in the year to end-June — are below the City's worst fears but still high. Second, the hardening of oil and other internationally traded products; third, the 14 per cent (continuing) increase in house prices which must help sustain inflationary expectations; fourth, the rapid growth in credit and the supply of broad money. While the structural changes in the financial system after Big Bang have made a one-off contribution to the growth in liquidity and credit, the accelerating credit boom raised the question of whether demand in the economy might begin to outpace supply. The external concerns were the possible effect of hesitant overseas markets on exports, dearer raw materials, destabilized exchange rates, and recourse to protectionism. Caution thus compounded, the authorities went for higher interest rates on August 6.

Firms link in Ulster gold quest

A gold prospecting venture in Northern Ireland has been launched by North West Exploration of Belfast and Enniskillen International of Dublin.

The companies will split the costs and returns of a two-year exploration programme over 94 square miles in Co Antrim, where Enniskillen has detected gold mineralization. Enniskillen will manage the programme.

The area is east of the Sperrin Mountains site where Enniskillen is preparing to work a commercial gold deposit.

Brookes profit rises £1.3m

Kennedy Brookes, the Whelan's restaurants to Heritage Hotels group, yesterday posted a sharp rise in pretax profits — up from £2.3 million to £3.6 million — for the half-year to April 26.

Earnings per share increased from 11.3p to 14.3p. The interim dividend is up from 0.75p to 0.975p.

Appleyard up

Appleyard Group, the Yorkshire motor trader, boosted interim pretax profits by 102 per cent to £2.3 million. Earnings per share jumped 55 per cent to 19.5p. Appleyard Financial Holdings, the jointly-owned contract hire and leasing outfit, contributed £325,000, a 50 per cent increase. The shares rose 3p to 467p.

Supplier sold

The USM-quoted Hughes Food Group is buying Laurel Farm Chilled Foods, a supplier of own-label supermarket products, for £450,000. This could increase to £1.25 million, depending on future profits.

US sales gain

Sales at US retail stores climbed 0.8 per cent in July after rising a revised 1.4 per cent in June, the US Commerce Department said. This suggested continued strength in the economy.

Hambros buy

Hambros, which owns Hambros merchant bank, has bought a 55 per cent holding in Network Security Management, a British company specializing in fraud investigation and loss prevention, for £1.65 million.

Deadly under cover

After four days of keeping readers sweating over which of Britain's first class cricketers was about to hang up his boots in favour of commerce, the Diary can today end their agony. It is not one of the recent test squad who has decided that enough is enough, but Derek Underwood, the Kent and former England spin bowler, who is taking an honourable retirement after 24 seasons of first class cricket, including 86 test matches in which he took 297 wickets. Underwood's future will remain with cricket, but of a much different kind. He has taken on the managing directorship of Kent Indoor Cricket, a company set up to exploit an Australian invention which is becoming the Eighties version of the Sixties ten-pin bowling craze, with venues popping up all over the country. When he announced his involvement with KIC, which is seeking funds through the Business Expansion Scheme, Underwood yesterday showed that, in a glib world, he still puts fair play first. Asked whether this boom in indoor cricket would help to improve the real thing he refused to make all the right PR noises, but candidly admitted that it would not. "It is such a totally different form of cricket, with different techniques," considering some recent England performances, some might say a totally different technique is exactly what is required. It remains to see how Underwood's fans react to his involvement with this new-

Builder increases profits by 37% to £8.9 million

By Alexandra Jackson

Abbey, the Dublin quoted housebuilder which earns all its profits outside Eire, yesterday reported a 37 per cent increase in pretax profits to £8.9 million (£8.9 million) in the year to end-April.

A final dividend of 1p was declared, making a total of 16.5p for the year. A one-for-two capitalization issue was announced.

Housebuilding accounted for 77 per cent of pretax profits. Abbey completed 798 houses in southern England at an average price of £62,000, making a profit of £129,664 on each unit.

Plant hire increased its profits by 37 per cent to £2.6

million. Several new depots were opened during the year. Losses from the now liquidated merchanting business depressed profits by £303,000. An extraordinary charge of £1.5 million was made to cover closure costs.

In line with the company's expectations, borrowing rose during the year from £12.5 million to £21.3 million. The gearing ratio was 84 per cent at the year-end but is expected to fall by 10 percentage points during the year.

Mr Ray Davies, chief executive, said: "We are not unhappy with this level of gearing and are confident that Abbey will be able to fund its

expansion from its own resources for the foreseeable future."

The tax charge fell from 48 per cent to 31 per cent, reflecting the company's change of tax residence from Eire to England.

The land buying programme is continuing, although prices have risen by at least 50 per cent in some areas. Abbey is on target to sell 950 units this year.

The group does not rule out the possibility of growing by acquisition but is having difficulties in finding opportunities at the right price. The shares rose 20p yesterday to 460p.

Gestetner sets up joint laser printer scheme

By Our City Staff

Gestetner Holdings is to form a joint venture with Impact Systems, the Australian laser printer group, to supply the European and American markets with laser printers under the brand name of "Gestetner Lasers".

The company is also buying 5 million new fully paid shares at £0.65 in Impact Systems, costing £3.25 million (£4.38 million), which will give it a stake of just under 10 per cent in the enlarged share capital. Gestetner has sub-

scribed to buy a further 5 million shares partly paid at £0.01 for £50,000 per share within five years.

Impact Systems was founded in 1985 by Mr John Price, the Australian entrepreneur, and was floated on the Australian Stock Exchange this year. It has built up a 40 per cent share of the Australian market as the only domestic manufacturer of laser printers and is forecasting £447 million turnover in the year to end-September.

Bankers attack Beirut plan for gold sales

Beirut (Reuters) — The proposed sale of 20 per cent of Lebanon's 9.2 million ounces of gold reserves would make only a limited contribution to solving the deepening economic crisis, bankers and economists said in Beirut.

One insisted: "This would be only a temporary solution to the economic crisis. It would be like slapping a bandage on a man already dying."

On Monday, Mr Seim Hoss, the acting Prime Minister, proposed the sale to set up a stabilization fund for the

Lebanese pound, which has lost 62 per cent of its international value this year. The sale would yield about \$800 million.

The Lebanese pound recovered marginally yesterday to \$222.50. At the start of 1987, the dollar could buy about 68 Lebanese pounds; at the start of 1986, it could buy only 18.

Sources close to Mr Hoss, a former banker, said the sum to be raised by the proposed gold sales could bolster the economy for about nine months.

But bankers said speculation against the currency could drain the fund in two months.

One third of the gold is held by the IMF in Washington and the remainder is at the Central Bank in Moslem West Beirut.

APPOINTMENTS

Ampex Corporation: Mr Charles Steinberg succeeds Mr Arthur Hennessey as chairman. Mr Max Mitchell becomes president and chief executive.

Rank Xerox (UK): Mr Jeff Hitchman becomes director of independent sales operations.

James Wilkie: Mr Charles Mackenzie joins the board.

Merrill Lynch: Mr Michael Giles succeeds Mr John Ward as chairman of International Banking Group.

Prudential-Bache Capital Funding: Mr Peter Fredriksson joins as managing director responsible for Scandinavian corporate finance.

TIL (Medical) UK: Dr John Dewhurst becomes medical director.

Taylor Woodrow Homes: Mr Graham Plowright and Mr John Purdie become divisional directors.



Mr Jeff Hitchman

The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales: Professor John Arnold has been appointed director of research from September 1.

Telcel UK: Mr Martin Church has become managing director.

Atco: Mr Martin Douglas has been appointed marketing and sales director.

Cambridge Electronic Industries: Mr Harry Tee has been named divisional managing director, electronic components division.

IDV: Mr Tim Ambler is confirmed as deputy managing director. Mr Paul Cards is international brand director. Mr Colin Gordon becomes non-executive chairman, International Distillers and Vintners (UK). Mr Howard Smith becomes executive director, IDV and managing director, IDV (UK), succeeding Mr Colin Gordon.

Solicitors Indemnity Mutual Insurance Association: Mr Christopher Cohen, Mr Peter Elliott, Mr Derek Hayes, Mr Steven Henriques, Mr Michael MacCabe, Mr Richard Malthouse and Mr Michael Payton become directors. Mr Payton was also elected chairman.

Ray Heath

Eau dear so dear

Economists tell me prices rise in response to supply and demand curves, but a colleague's recent experience at the Ledenhall Restaurant in the heart of the City of London, suggests that this theory has been thrown over in favour of the "see what the market will bear" rule. Yuppies' preference for mineral water rather than demon drink is well known, so the statutory bottle of a well-known French brand was ordered during the meal as well as two separate glasses of the stuff. My colleague, who was already nervous about the bill as this restaurant appears to have increased its prices by well above the rate of inflation in the last 12 months, was appalled to see each glass of water itemised at £1. As a bottle apparently contains four glasses, this modest service, costing £6.75. In a nearby delicatessen, not known for its knockdown prices, it was possible to buy a bottle of Perrier (ready chilled) for 66p. By my calculation this represents a mark up of more than 1,023 per cent. If all caterers made that sort of margin, the earnings multiples would be something to behold.

Has disgraced arbitrageur Ivan Boesky been receiving death threats. I wonder? He has, I hear, just enrolled at New York's Manhattan Jewish Theological Seminary to take classes in Hebrew and Talmud — one of the teachings of which is apparently that "repentance prolongs a man's life."

Only all insurance companies were as thoughtful as Royal, then David Hudson of Barclays de Zoete Wedd would be holding three bottles of champagne, not just one. Yesterday, he won the prize from Royal for being closest in his forecasts about results. He was also closest with his forecasts for General Accident and Commercial Union, but alas no champagne. Royal was generous enough to give another bottle to Savory Millin analysts, who came up with a similar forecast.

Ray Heath

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Harris's missing link

Sir Philip Harris, the contrite head of Harris Queensway, may have a little difficulty in fulfilling his new promise to improve communications between his company and the City after the profits decline which he signposted on Wednesday. His broker — Shearson Lehman (formerly L. Messel) — no longer has a full-time furnishing stores analyst,

now that Mr Tim Kirkwood, the analyst at the firm who used to cover Harris Queensway, has left to join the mighty house of Warburg. At the moment Peter Jones — head of research — is filling in for Kirkwood as the Harris Queensway contact. He used to be a full-time retail analyst four or five years ago and I am assured that he has kept in close touch with the sector.

fangled game, which includes a rule that says a man (or woman) — it is a game for both sexes — remains in, even when out.

Top score There is no lack of business acumen in the recent test



"I used to write schoolboy thrillers — then I wised up to share letters."

ESTIMATED HALF YEAR RESULTS FOR 1987 AND INTERIM DIVIDEND

The second quarter result was a pre-tax profit of £110.3m (1986:£58.0m) producing a profit of £158.1m for the six months ended 30 June 1987, an 80% increase over the corresponding period last year.

Earnings per share rose from 15.0p to 22.3p.

Interim dividend 8.25p, a 57% increase on the equivalent 1986 interim dividend of 5.25p adjusted for the capitalisation issue. The increase in part reflects the objective of reducing the disparity with the final dividend.

Increased profits were achieved by all operating companies except Royal UK where the result remained affected by the first quarter weather losses.

Pre-tax earnings for Royal Life Holdings, which now has interests in over 530 estate agency offices, rose by 38% to £17.6m. New annual premiums increased by 17% to £45.5m and new single premiums by 71% to £234.7m.

Current operating conditions in our major markets are not satisfactory and the outlook for the remainder of 1987 is reasonably favourable. We believe the company is well placed to achieve a further steady growth in profits.

	6 months to 30 June 1987 (unaudited) £m	6 months to 30 June 1986 (unaudited) £m	Year 1986 (audited) £m
General Premiums	1,607.9	1,511.5	3,103.1
Long-term Premiums	431.0	314.9	692.3
General Insurance:			
Underwriting			
Balance	-53.6	-109.5	-108.8
Allocated Investment			
Income	133.9	134.3	278.8
Result	80.3	24.8	170.0
Long-term Insurance			
Profit	17.6	13.9	28.4
Investment Income			
Attributable to Capital and Reserves	48.3	42.3	89.3
Share of Associated Companies' Profits	11.9	6.4	17.1
Profit before Taxation	158.1	87.4	304.8
Taxation	51.4	15.8	54.4
Minority Interests	1.2	0.8	1.8
Net Profit attributable to the Shareholders	105.5	70.8	248.6
Dividend	39.2	24.8	73.2
Profit retained	66.3	46.0	175.4
Earnings per share			
(Note)	22.3p	15.0p	52.7p
Dividend per share			
(Note)	8.25p	5.25p	15.5p
Capital and Reserves	£2,542m	£2,179m	£2,465m

Note The 1986 pence per share figures have been adjusted for the capitalisation issue.

The shareholders' leaflet is posted to shareholders. Copies can be obtained from Corporate Relations, Royal Insurance plc, 1 Cornhill, London, EC3V 3QR. Telephone number 01-263 4300.



Royal Dutch/Shell Group

Results for First Half 1987



	SECOND QUARTER		FIRST HALF	
	1986	1987	1986	1987
Net proceeds	10,343	11,564	23,234	22,999
Income before taxation	1,373	1,407	3,324	2,981
Taxation	824	736	2,054	1,594
Income after taxation	549	671	1,270	1,387
Income applicable to minority interests	4	11	7	29
Net income for the period	545	660	1,263	1,358
Parent Companies' provisional share in Group net income:				
Royal Dutch	Nil	5.00	5.31	11.60
Shell Transport	pence 17.5	21.2	40.6	43.6

Net income increased by 21% to £660 million in the second quarter 1987. This includes estimated after-tax inventory holding gains of £30 million on those inventories accounted for on a first-in-first-out basis. In the comparable 1986 quarter, estimated inventory holding losses amounted to £362 million. For the first half of 1987, net income of £1,358 million included inventory holding gains of £122 million, compared with inventory losses of £955 million in 1986.

Key features for the second quarter included:

- Exploration and production earnings increased, principally due to higher crude oil prices and lower exploration expense which more than offset reduced natural gas earnings.
- Manufacturing, marine and marketing earnings declined sharply, on a reported basis and even more sharply on an estimated current cost of supplies basis, with current margins squeezed by rising supply costs and increased competitive pressures - a reversal of last year's market conditions.
- Chemicals earnings again improved, continuing the recent strong sector performance.
- Corporate currency exchange losses were considerably reduced.

For the half-year, Group net income reflects reduced earnings from exploration and production activities, offset by inventory holding gains (as opposed to losses in 1986) within the manufacturing, marine and marketing sector, and by improved results from the chemicals and corporate sectors. The overall result was an 8% increase.

Group funds generated amounted to £2,484 million for the half-year compared with £3,550 million in 1986. Higher oil prices resulted in net working capital increasing by £668 million in 1987, a reversal from the decrease of £742 million in 1986. Capital expenditure and exploration expense for the half-year was £1,970 million as compared with £2,227 million for 1986. Expenditure for the year is currently expected to be at a similar level to that in 1986.

Cash and short-term securities, at £5 billion, remained at the same level as a year ago, while long and short-term debt has decreased by £1.3 billion. The long-term debt ratio was consequently reduced from 16% in mid-1986 to 13% in mid-1987.

For the remainder of 1987, the outlook is greatly dependent on the level of crude oil prices, with the tensions now prevalent in the Gulf a significant factor. If OPEC is successful in maintaining prices at about current levels for the second half of 1987, the exploration and production sector should benefit. The outlook in respect of manufacturing, marine and marketing is for continued uncertainty, given the rise in crude oil prices which has not been fully reflected in product prices due to competitive pressures. The performance of the chemicals sector is expected to remain strong.

August 13, 1987

An interim report by Royal Dutch Petroleum Company and The "Shell" Transport and Trading Company, p.l.c. on the unaudited results of the Royal Dutch/Shell Group of Companies, in which their interests are 60% and 40% respectively. A copy of the full report may be obtained from Shell Centre (Ref LGSL), London SE1 7NA or by telephoning 01-934 6252. Results for the First Quarter 1987 were issued on May 14, 1987 and can be obtained from the same address.

HALF YEAR RESULTS FROM BRITAIN'S BIGGEST COMPANY

BP's strength and diversity pay off in the first half of 1987.

BP's financial results for January-June 1987 showed historical cost profits of £775 million, compared with £236 million for the corresponding period in 1986.

Replacement cost profits (which exclude the gains and

EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION

6 MONTH REPLACEMENT COST OPERATING PROFIT **£945m**

REFINING & MARKETING

6 MONTH REPLACEMENT COST OPERATING PROFIT **£272m**

KEY FINANCIAL RESULTS

	1987 HALF YEAR	1986 HALF YEAR
GROUP PROFIT BEFORE EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS		
- Historical Cost	£775m	£236m
- Replacement Cost	£584m	£1,215m
Interim Dividend per ordinary share	4.5p	4.0p

NUTRITION

6 MONTH REPLACEMENT COST OPERATING PROFIT **£26m**

announced the formation of BP America as the holding company for all US operations. These will now be merged with BP's International Businesses.

This new structure combines the well-known oil exploration strengths of BP with the established marketing

expertise of Standard Oil, and is expected to have far-reaching effects on BP's future development and prospects.

Dividends

The Board has recommended payment of an interim dividend of 4.5p per share,

representing a 12.5% increase on the corresponding 1986 figure. This reflects not only the performance over the half year, but confidence in the prospects for coming months.

OTHERS

6 MONTH REPLACEMENT COST OPERATING PROFIT **£35m**

If you would like a copy of the BP Interim Report to Shareholders, please write to: Britannic House, Moor Lane, London EC2Y 9BU.

BP

Britain at its best.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Three Month Sterling	Open	High	Low	Close	Est Vol
Sep 87	89.71	89.74	89.67	89.68	1950
Oct 87	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	150
Nov 87	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	105
Dec 87	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	17
Jan 88	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Feb 88	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Mar 88	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Apr 88	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
May 88	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jun 88	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jul 88	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Aug 88	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Sep 88	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Oct 88	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Nov 88	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Dec 88	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jan 89	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Feb 89	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Mar 89	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Apr 89	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
May 89	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jun 89	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jul 89	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Aug 89	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Sep 89	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Oct 89	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Nov 89	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Dec 89	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jan 90	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Feb 90	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Mar 90	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Apr 90	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
May 90	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jun 90	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jul 90	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Aug 90	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
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Nov 94	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Dec 94	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jan 95	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Feb 95	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Mar 95	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Apr 95	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
May 95	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
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Oct 95	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Nov 95	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Dec 95	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jan 96	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Feb 96	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Mar 96	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Apr 96	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
May 96	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
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Jan 98	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
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Mar 98	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
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Oct 99	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Nov 99	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Dec 99	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jan 00	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Feb 00	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Mar 00	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Apr 00	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
May 00	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jun 00	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
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Oct 00	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Nov 00	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Dec 00	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jan 01	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Feb 01	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Mar 01	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Apr 01	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
May 01	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jun 01	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jul 01	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Aug 01	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Sep 01	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Oct 01	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Nov 01	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Dec 01	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jan 02	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Feb 02	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Mar 02	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Apr 02	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
May 02	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jun 02	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jul 02	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
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Jan 03	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Feb 03	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Mar 03	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Apr 03	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
May 03	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jun 03	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jul 03	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Aug 03	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Sep 03	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Oct 03	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Nov 03	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Dec 03	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jan 04	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Feb 04	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Mar 04	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Apr 04	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
May 04	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jun 04	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Jul 04	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Aug 04	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Sep 04	89.66	89.68	89.63	89.63	10
Oct 04	89.66	89.68	89		

Portfolio - Gold -

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Cash or loss
1	Hill Samuel	Banking	
2	Capital Radio	Leisure	
3	Bentley	Industrials A-D	
4	Sock Shop	Draperies	
5	Thrift Mile	Industrials S-Z	
6	Charnell	Oil & Gas	
7	Top Top Drug	Draperies	
8	Salvage (China)	Foods	
9	Woolworth	Industrials L-R	
10	Markham	Oil & Gas	
11	Holmes of London	Draperies	
12	Ferguson Ind	Paper Print Adv	
13	Bulfinch	Building Roads	
14	Moss Bros	Draperies	
15	Holt Lloyd	Chemicals Plastics	
16	Amco	Building Roads	
17	Sale Tiley	Industrials S-Z	
18	Aus New Z	Banking	
19	Bulfin (AF) A	Electronics	
20	EMAP	Newspapers Pub	
21	Woodhouse & Rix	Industrials S-Z	
22	Alfred East	Banking	
23	Cowley (L)	Textiles	
24	Lox Securities	Property	
25	Ferrari	Electronics	
26	AB Elec	Electronics	
27	Raine Ind	Building Roads	
28	Tate & Lyle	Foods	
29	Christy Ham	Industrials A-D	
30	Takada Chem	Industrials S-Z	
31	Sandell Perkins	Building Roads	
32	Assoc Fisheries	Foods	
33	Baird (Wm)	Industrials A-D	
34	Hamson Ind	Industrials E-K	
35	Office Elect Mach	Industrials L-R	
36	Blackwood Hedge	Industrials A-D	
37	Forward Tech	Electronics	
38	Hazewood Foods	Foods	
39	Br Mohair	Textiles	
40	French (Thomas)	Industrials E-K	
41	Linnard	Industrials L-R	
42	Usher Walker	Paper Print Adv	
43	SI	Industrials S-Z	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS			
1987	High	Low	Stock

SHORTS (Under Five Years)			
1987	High	Low	Stock

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS			
1987	High	Low	Stock

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS			
1987	High	Low	Stock

UNDATED			
1987	High	Low	Stock

INDEX-LINKED			
1987	High	Low	Stock

BANKS DISCOUNT HP			
1987	High	Low	Stock

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Closing rally

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began Monday. Dealings end August 21. Settlement day August 24. Settlement day September 1. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are recorded at 5pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close and may differ from changes calculated by comparing 5pm prices, published the previous day. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (No) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 22)

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

BREWERIES							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

BUILDINGS AND ROADS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

CINEMAS AND TV							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

DRAPERY AND STORES							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

HOTELS AND CATERERS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

ELECTRICALS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

FINANCE AND LAND							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

FOODS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

INDUSTRIALS A-D							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

INDUSTRIALS S-Z							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

L-R							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

MINING							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

OIL & GAS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

OVERSEAS TRADERS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTG							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

PROPERTY							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

SHIPPING							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

SHOES AND LEATHER							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

TEXTILES							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

TOBACCO							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

Portfolio - Gold -

CLAIMS DIVIDEND
£8,000
Claims required for +30 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

OVERSEAS TRADERS							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTG							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

PROPERTY							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

SHIPPING							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

SHOES AND LEATHER							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

TEXTILES							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

TOBACCO							
1987	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE

© The dividend is £8,000. For more details on the dividend and how to claim, see the special advertisement in the Financial Times. The dividend is payable to the claimant who has the highest number of points. The dividend is payable to the claimant who has the highest number of points. The dividend is payable to the claimant who has the highest number of points.

0254-53272

[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

Safe sailing with Ursula

By Della Mason

Ursula Roberts spends her life up to her eyes in electronics and is always available on a mobile phone. It is her answer to keeping ships in Kent's coastal waters on the move.

Since she set up her own business, Tame Technology, three years ago, to fit radar into small pleasure boats, there has been something of an explosion in her life. First, she found most of the customers were not families going on holiday, but the coasters, tankers, and merchant ships that pass her workshops on the Thames each day.

What they wanted, to save money operationally, was a speedy turnaround. When they had technical problems they needed help immediately. With an electronics degree from the Merchant Navy College at Greenwich, Kent, and a home over her High Street workshop in nearby Northfleet, she has been the answer to their prayers.

And the calls come at all hours of the day. Ursula, 30, said: "There's no switch-off at weekends. I deal with urgent calls at any time."

What is now a £100,000-a-year business started from nothing. "I had noticed that few small boats had any decent navigation equipment, she said. "I got my first order, fitted the equipment and



Ursula Roberts: success at sea didn't leave until I had the cash." It gave her the 30-day credit she needed.

For Ursula, swift timing runs through her whole enterprise. When she heard that the Ramsgate Harbour Authority wanted to put in new navigation aids to cope with the growing use of roll-on, roll-off ferries, she spent the weekend knocking up figures and delivered them

by hand on the Monday. Two days later, she landed her biggest order — for £25,000. About two-thirds of her work is in the commercial sector. "I like that side," said Ursula. "They make up their minds, and let me get on with the job."

Of course, initially, she had to build her reputation. "People come to me first with silly things, just to see if a girl can do it," she explained. "I'm so used to it now that I smile...but otherwise never let on."

She believes that Tame Technology could expand even faster. The aim is a £250,000-a-year turnover after another two years. She sub-contracts the delivery and fitting of equipment to yachts abroad, working with yet another woman in the electronics business, Brenda Mandrinos, of Bexley in south London, who opened her own business earlier this year.

With two engineers on staff and four youth training scheme trainees, Ursula believes she is the first woman in Britain to set up on her own in the field of marine electronics.

Keeping overheads down, but giving good value is her aim. She works on a 10 to 15 per cent net profit margin, refusing to leave her Thames-side premises for something expensive and glossy and worries endlessly about her private yacht sector, advising them constantly on sea-going safety.

Wanted: skills to fill a gap

By Derek Harris

Small businesses are doing so well that skill shortages have become a bugbear. The problem is so acute for some companies that they are having to offer substantial salary inducements to attract skilled workers.

Mr FRIDAY



"And if I don't win the 1987 Company of the Year Award, I'm holding you personally responsible!"

This picture emerged from the latest quarterly trends survey of the small-business scene by the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) smaller firms council.

Mrs Jean Parker, chairman of the council, said that small businesses are creating jobs at a faster rate than any other sector of industry. The survey showed that small firms have a fast rate of growth in orders and output and that investment intentions are up. Costs and prices at the same time are rising less rapidly. Generally employment is accelerating.

This picture was described by Mrs Parker as "encouraging", marred only by the skill-shortage problem, the hardest vacancies to fill being for machinists, welders, printers and design and electronics engineers.

Mrs Parker added: "The shortages are obviously a great concern to large and small companies alike, particularly with unemployment at its present levels. But this problem affects small firms in particular."

To tackle the problem, the CBI is trying at the local level to bring together employers and training providers.

BRIEFING

Plans are in train to repeat the successful recent experiment of a forum to explain women to business, with bank managers meeting women entrepreneurs. It will be by invitation from the Women's Enterprise Development Agency (Weda) at Aston Science Park, Birmingham, writes Sally Watts.

At the agency Elaine Lawrence said: "We want to show bank managers that there are occasions when women think differently from men and to try to break the barriers by establishing a two-way link."

Sponsors of the agency, officially launched in April, include the National Westminster Bank, with funding of £30,000 over two years, BP, the Cadbury Trust and the Department of Employment. Weda pays two self-employed female consultants to advise beginners and women who want to develop their business. It also helps them to find financial backing.

Weda is now compiling a survey to establish the needs of women in business.

Contact: Women's Enterprise Development Agency, Aston Science Park, Love Lane, Aston Triangle, Birmingham B7 4BJ (tel: 021-359 0178).

Shopping mall threat to Green Belt

A notorious American gangster was once asked why he kept robbing banks. "Because," he replied with disarming simplicity, "that's where the money is."

That must be the reason for the spate of bids for giant US-style shopping-mall developments in the South-East's affluent Green Belt, despite government discouragement.

Applications are in for major developments in Hertfordshire, Berkshire, Surrey, Kent, Essex and Middlesex. The seven projects proposed would ring London around the M25 perimeter and if allowed could each be worth £150 million to £200 million.

The million square feet-plus malls seek customers within 30 to 45 minutes "drive-time", a catchment area that can straddle three counties, as the M25 changes the social geography of the South-East. Leisure and landscaping are

the sweeteners, with promises of acres of picnic parkland for the public.

So far Britain's biggest regional shopping centre is the 1½ million square feet Metro Centre on Tyneside, created in an enterprise zone and built-up area. Greenfields in the green belt are another story.

Roger Sims, MP for Chislehurst, raised planning guidelines just before the House rose. The Prudential wanted to develop a farm site near Bromley, Kent, and the local authority has turned the application down. He deliberately flew the kite, he said this week, to get clearer guidelines. He managed to get Marian Roe, the new Under-Secretary at the

DoE, to warn again that developers who push large retail developments in the Green Belt to appeal stage risk being caught by costs if they lose.

Michael Mallinson, chief surveyor for Prudential Portfolio Managers, said the Hewitts Farm, Bromley, proposal was now on ice while they decided whether to appeal. The appeal everyone is watching is ARC Properties' bid for a major shopping/leisure complex at Wraybury, Berkshire has not turned it down. It is "not yet determined."

ARC seems prepared to play it rough, or anyway brisk. They have appealed against non-determination and an inquiry should start on November 24. But Berkshire is mobilizing all the Berkshire and Surrey MPs, plus Surrey County Council, to press the DoE for time. They want the hearing postponed until next year.

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Continued on next page

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Acajou has National Stakes objective after decisive win

market by Willie Jarvis, completed a double for Bruce Raymond, previously successful with Chucklstone.

Apprentice Andrew Boxhall, 6, registered his first success on Court Town, the 9-4 favourite for the Netton Apprentices' Handicap, who beat Saunders last by half a length. Court Town is trained by Richard Mannon, who will be looking for a greater prize on Sunday when his colt Guineas favourite, Don't Forget Me, tackles Miesque in the group one Prix Jacques le Marois at Deauville.

At Newton Abbot, Martin

Pipe maintained his fine start to the National Hunt season by completing a four-timer with Guymyson, Rahiib, Princess emelic and My Cup Of Tea. Pipe's only other runner. Repetitive, finished third. All four winners were ridden by the reigning champion jockey, Peter Cudmore.

Pipe's self-effacing claim to be slow starter is looking rather misplaced as he is already

The Henry Cecil-trained filly, Belle Poirine, stretched her

Dickinson's record of 120 winners in a National Hunt season.

Colonel Christy, trained by Hugh O'Neill, gained his first winning for three years when leading Parcelstown in the Pine Lodge Challenge Trophy Handicap Chase (£1,400: 2m 1f) (5) on 12th Nov.

MOVIE 5 (S) G Stockland 8-11-0 W Irvine (7)
190 C Popham 8-11-0 B Powell
J Wornacott 8-11-0 D Wornacott
BAMBLING 2 A Barrow 8-11-0 H Davies
UNBETTER 8 M Pape 8-11-0 P Scudamore

Only. 3.45 Diaphanine. 4.15 The 1.45 Come On Gracie

NOVICES SELLING HURDLE (4
1f) (3)

1-9 R Frost 5-10-7 J Frost
 2-10 R Mace 6-10-7 J Lower
 3-11 R Frost 4-10-7 A Frost
 4- Light Hills 11 1-11 Daaphantine.

CHALLENGE CUP (5)
1f) (2)

1-9 (C.D.F.) G R Lee 9-12-0 (Max)
 2-10 R Mace 6-10-7 M Richards (4)
COMBIE ST (7) G Ham 6-11-5 R Frost
 4- The Royal Corrie.

JUTH HANDICAP HURDLE
2m 1f) (8)

1-9 R Mace 6-10-7 J Ryan
 2-10 (C.D.F.) C Popham 8-10-7 (Max)
 3-11 R Mace 6-10-7 Miss G Arragony
 4-12 (C.D.F.) P Hobbs 6-10-7 Miss S Hobbs (7)
 5-13 (F.S.) J Thomas 11-10-4 Miss P Hobbs
 6-14 (F.S.) W R Walsam 6-10-7 C C
 7-15 (F.S.) J Thomas 11-10-4 Miss P Hobbs
 8-16 (F.S.) J Thomas 11-10-4 Miss P Hobbs
 9-17 (F.S.) J Thomas 11-10-4 Miss P Hobbs
 10-18 (F.S.) J Thomas 11-10-4 Miss P Hobbs
 11-19 (F.S.) J Thomas 11-10-4 Miss P Hobbs
 12-20 (F.S.) J Thomas 11-10-4 Miss P Hobbs

TRAINERS: G Bading, 13 winners from 70 races, 43 from 234, 18.4%. (Only qualifiers).

che, 5-2 Battle Master, 4-1 Sir Buster, 10-year-old Hal, 12-1 others.

TRICE 13 C Momes 10-8 — A Wentz 10-8 W Kemp 10-8 S Shusterman 10-8 Mome 10-8 G Moore 10-8 Gressell 10-8 G Goldstein 10-8 Winkler 9-1 Jones 10-1 M Kirmse 10-1

ma, 100-30 Young Lochrnan, 5-2 che, 10-1 Harry-Em, 14-1 others.

D HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2,043:

F Gray 7-11-10, P Coney (7)
ND RED 51 (B,C) A Mome 4-11-10 G
ELLE 11 (B,C,F) J Dennis 11-7.

10-10 Gressell 10-11-2 — A Carroll 10-11-2 W (F) Gressell 10-11-2 G Goldstein 10-11-2 G C. Fitch-Jones 10-11-2

9 (F) J Fitch-Jones 9-11-3 (4)

11-4 Rhoad Island Red, 11-2 Assoc, 10-11 21 Shenyap.

19 **DE-F BAYING** 8 J Long 4-10-8.....
20 **FAR TOO BUSY** A Denson 4-10-8.....
5-1 Jim Somebody: 4-1 Bruce: 6-1 Mom

81 (C,D,F,G,H) J Fitch-Hynes 12-15-5
Penny Fitch-Hynes (4)
90 (C,D,F,G,H) N Thomson 11-11-6
S Thomson (7)
94 (D,F,G) G Franchard-Gordon 10-11-3
S Sharnwood
95 (C,D,F,G,H) W Kemp 8-11-4
S Slaton
97 (F) J(P) P Jones 11-10-9
M Kanne
98 (D) S(P) S Butler 10-10-2
K Burke (4)
99 JUL 11 (F,G) J Long 16-10-4...
S McNeill (3)
100 (C,D,E) C Holmes 8-10-4... J Yates (7)
101 AUG 11 (C,D,F) R Ledger 14-10-4
Mrs N Ledger
102 QAU 11 (D,F,S) N Wheeler 14-10-4
Mr N Wheeler
Sranmucous, X West 2nd Flight, 11-2 Flight
Group, 12-1 covers.

E specialists

C winners from 108 runners, 11.1%: J
Went 16.1%, A Moore 16.1%, J Yates
B, 11.1%, A Moore, 28 from 288, 9.0%.
J Yates, 10 winners from 55 rides.
from 210, 11.4%, 9 more from 254.

Yesterday's

Shady Heights n Matchmaker

Michael Roberts has been booked by Robert Armstrong to race Shady Heights in the Matchmaker International at York next Tuesday.

Roberts would have ridden the likely favourite, the Eclipse stakes winner, Mitoto, but the four-year-old was withdrawn after suffering a training setback.

Most Welcome has been well backed for the race with Mecca and is now 9-2 (from 6-1). Allez Clifford, 8-1 from 12-1, has also been supported.

Daarkom, Roberts' mount in the Ebor Handicap next Wednesday, is also well backed.

Castor (4th), Director's Choice (6th), Hello
Steve, 50 Mr Murdock, 8 ran. 11, 11, sh hd.

Dudgeon puts his stables on the market

19.10; £2 90, £1 30, £1.40, DF: £32.00.

rans Cundell. Among his best known horses were Wovoka and Brown Matrimonial.

Liverpool's investment in new players should help them through a season that has grown too arduous for its own good

Anfield pair in single-minded pursuit of title

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

FOOTBALL: COUNTDOWN TO THE SEASON

Those who believe that the departure of Ian Rush might mark the end of an Anfield era should be warned. Listen to the words of John Smith, the chairman at Liverpool. "Our current squad is one of the strongest we've ever had over the last 20 years," he declares.

"We are keen to win championships again," he adds with chilling simplicity, "because that is our business." The purchase of a strike force that cost more than £2.5 million suggests that Liverpool are indeed treating the challenge of capturing the English crown, for the tenth time in 16 years, as seriously as usual.

There is no need to seek confirmation from Kenny Dalglish. He shares the club's tradition of single-minded pursuit of success. If not, he would not have been invited to take over as manager after the Hays Stadium tragedy in 1985 nor would he have accepted a role that, in those dark days, was unenviable.

Dalglish is a man of few illuminating public statements anyway. When asked for a picture of his side's prospects, for instance, he replied: "We will start with the same as everybody else. With nothing." Such responses, often laced with charming, chatty Glaswegian humour, have led to wild misinterpretations and, recently, to unjust criticism.

He is neither unhelpful (he is as freely available off the pitch as he is in the press) nor insensitive. He has been accused of both failings because, in an age when managers are unreasonably expected by the media to be increasingly expansive open and loquacious, his priorities happen to lie elsewhere.

Rush, as he looks back fondly on his former home, reveals Dalglish's qualities. "A born leader, he brought us all

together. He told us that if he had something to say, he would say it to the players' faces and not through the newspapers. He kept faithfully to that promise.

"He praised us when we deserved it, but he wasn't averse to kicking us up the backside. It was all done without screaming headlines, without the world knowing. Apart from his genius on the field, he built up a spirit that I have never seen equalled, even at Anfield."

Barnes and Beardsley are now among the fold closely bound and heavily protected by Dalglish. "Buying them was a gamble," he says. "They and Aldridge were the ones I selected, the board backed my judgement and now it is up to me. Their prices are irrelevant. It is their performances that count."

The goalscoring ability of Aldridge, as well as Walsh, and the creative talents of Barnes, who should profit in particular from his move, and Beardsley, form a potentially frightening attacking combination. How regular and how significant will be the contribution of Dalglish himself, now in his 36th year?

"He's done the training," the manager claims with undisguised relief. "Well, most of it anyway. He's available for selection if he's good enough and that may be in some doubt. But, since we have to pick 13 players for each game this season, the chances of him being in the squad must be greater."

So Scott has collected more caps (100) or scored more goals (30, equal with Denis Law) and Dalglish admits that he is "maybe a bit harsh on myself but, then again, no one knows me better."

Yet, when Liverpool return to full strength, the competition for places will be as fierce as Smith claims.

Lawson should be back next month and Molloy's rehabilitation starts today with the removal of a



Dalglish: a 'born leader', a man who walks alone, a manager of few words

plaster cast. Beglin and MacDonald are "coming along fine". The others, including the expensive acquisitions, "settled in quickly". During Liverpool's seven preparatory matches they were beaten only once, by Bayern Munich in West Germany.

"Everyone will be expected to be totally committed to the club," Dalglish states. "Our supporters wouldn't settle for anything less so why should we? We respect all the other sides in the first division but we can't do anything about them until we play against them, can we?"

As he takes a broader view of the centenary season, he hopes that "the foundations we've built in the last couple of years grow stronger but we must all work for football rather than for ourselves." Smith, who also acts as the chairman of the Sports Council, has a similar vision.

"We want to return to the standards we've known for 80 or 90 years. We

are living in a sick society that is not as disciplined as it used to be and I believe that football has paid a very high price for the sins and crimes of that society."

"But we've done well to reduce hooliganism, especially through the use of close-circuit television. Because of the power of detection, these hoodlums are moving to other sports. Crowd behaviour must continue to improve but the centenary season should be a celebration of a League that is still respected as the hardest in the world."

Smith, another member of the increasingly large group of optimists who feel that UEFA could next year re-admit English clubs into Europe, has, predictably, only one other wish. So does Dalglish. Champion of champions though they may be, as the accompanying table confirms, their hunger for the title remains ominously undiminished.

Money-spinning twist in the tail that has a worrying sting

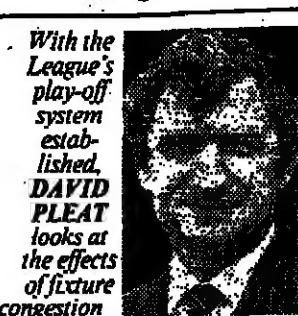
While sipping my sangria against a Mediterranean sunset, Charlton Athletic and Leeds United were bringing down the curtain on a long, hard season of football. It was May 28. An extra-time twist in the tail of the season, similar to the FA Cup Final, had captured the public's imagination. The cut-and-thrust, winner-takes-all philosophy of the play-offs after a marathon season had tickled the punters' fancy.

But is such knock-out football the long-term answer to putting our national game back on strong foundations, or is it just another instant method of further financial compensation to the complacent? We have the Freight Rover Trophy, the Full Members' Cup, the Littlewoods Cup, the FA Cup, the League and play-offs, too. Can we saturate our game so that it is too much for the most loyal and hardy spectators?

Better spirit but still problems

The consensus was that the 1986-87 season, after an intriguing World Cup, had taken a decided upswing. Football was breathing new life spurred by the projection of clubs with a *joie de vivre* around the European championship qualification for the national teams and the Football League centenary season.

There was a better spirit among the professional Footballers' Association club leagues on the field (although a total of 40 sendings-off in first division games suggests there is room for further improvement), there was an improved camaraderie among managers (regardless of what some of the papers may con-



With the League's play-off system established, DAVID PLEAT looks at the effects of fixture congestion

ture) and the coaches played their part, experimenting with systems of play that previously might have been interpreted as negative.

But I believe the domestic game is still suffering from misplaced guidance. We do play too many games.

Saturday-midweek football leaves little time to improve techniques on the coaching ground. Come February, March and April, far too many players are having last-minute fitness tests, protecting sore groins, strained stomach muscles and tender hamstrings. End-of-season internationals see our finest players involved in laborious slogs.

We at Tottenham Hotspur were involved last season in more than 65 fixtures (pre-season matches, Littlewoods and FA Cups and League). Some may suggest I should regard our players as fortunate, but I ask them to consider that our international players had sweated in the heat and glare of Mexico in the World Cup and then had a further six internationals during the League season to contend with. No wonder the England v Scotland fixture at Hampden Park was a non-event.

It is just not possible to sustain high-level performance over a nine-month period without dips in form and physical conditioning.

Do we allow players sufficient time to recover from nighting injuries before we coax them back for vital League action? Is it misplaced thinking to challenge the amount of games our top players are expected to play? I think not. We must put our priorities right.

While the European door remains locked, my only concern — other than day-to-day entertainment and winning — is to see our national side succeed. That can be the only barometer by which we can judge our standards at this time. Therefore, we must gear our whole League system to enabling our managers to have the maximum chance — the Full Members' Cup and play-offs are just two more spanners in the wheel.

Responsibility at national level

Winning international games regularly is the best recipe for the flourishing of our reputation and standards. We have reversed the decline of football attendance, but we must beware the illusion that football was reborn last season. We took initial steps, but we are in danger of squeezing the orange dry.

Would the upward trend in attendance be halted if we reduced the amount of football? I think not.

Too much football is instigated by misplaced greed for more money. Last season we kicked ourselves out from July until June. We must hope that the media will handle this summer and careful handling of our very best players will make certain there is some life and brightness come next May, so the England flag will fly with pride at the European championship.

RUGBY UNION

Australian tour cancelled as SA Board ends speculation

Johannesburg (Reuters) — South Africa has ruled out a tour by an unofficial Australian team this year, ending months of controversy which has split the sport-starved nation. The South African Rugby Board yesterday cancelled a meeting scheduled for today which could have given the go-ahead to a tour backed by players in South Africa and Australia.

In a statement from Cape Town, the Board said: "The possible Australian tour to South Africa will not take place." Local newspapers had been filled with reports that the Australians could tour in defiance of an international ban on sporting links with South Africa in protest against its apartheid policies.

Speculation reached a pitch last week when two leading Australian players arrived in the Republic to lobby for a tour. They said 30 of Australia's leading players were ready to play, even though they risked being banned from rugby by Australia.

The SARB expressed its regret to Australian and South African players for "incorrect im-

pressions and expectations" which had been created about a possible tour. The issue had divided South African sports leaders and the rugby-mad white public, long starved of top-class international competition.

South African players and several leading administrators had come out in support of a tour. The main opposition came from the veteran Board president, Dr Denis Craven, who did not want to jeopardize future official tours promised by the International Rugby Board.

Craven had given the Board undertakings that there would be no more unofficial tours after last year's visit by the New Zealand Cavaliers.

Andrew Slack, the former Australian captain, who visited South Africa last week with the present captain, David Codely, reacted angrily to the news. "I find this decision unbelievable. It shows a two-faced and gutless attitude," he said.

The proposed tour caused a storm in Australia, where the Government firmly opposes contacts with South Africa. South Africa's white population

wanted a tour to break the Republic's sporting isolation and to prove that the powerful Springboks are a force to be reckoned with in world rugby despite their exclusion from the inaugural World Cup this year.

In Sydney, Australian rugby officials welcomed the South African decision but prominent players pledged a tour would still go ahead. "I am delighted," the Australian RFU executive director, John Dedrick, said. "The rumour was causing all sort of problems here."

The ARFU made clear that any player taking part in a tour to South Africa would risk themselves out of selection for an official Australian side. But several prominent players, who did not wish to be named, called the decision a smoke-screen to take the heat off the issue and make it easier for a more discreet tour to go ahead.

"They'll have to confiscate my passport to stop me going. This means nothing until I get it officially," one player said. "I wouldn't be surprised to see a number of rugby players filtering out of the country once the heat is off."

HORSE TRIALS

Leng goes for her fourth win

By Jenny MacArthur

Captain Mark Phillips could be hoist with his own petard at this year's Croft Original British Open championships. It is the first time that he has ridden at his own event, over the course he designed, since he started the horse trials at Gatcombe five years ago.

Capt Phillips, normally barred from competing because he is both organizer and course designer, has been given special permission to compete *hors concours* this year because he is one of the 10 short-listed riders having a final trial at Gatcombe before the team of six for this year's European championships, in West Germany, is named on Monday.

Capt Phillips will ride Cartier, who has been placed at four advanced classes this year, including the Bramham three-day event, and will be the only rider to compete in the event. He has a two-edged sword. He has the advantage of knowing the fences and the ground, but he has the disadvantage of riding *hors concours*, which will make it difficult for him to find the competitive edge necessary at this level of competition.

He will need that edge in the light of the world-class entry in this year's championship class, in which there are 67 starters. The list is headed by Virginia Leng, the world champion, who is bidding for her fourth national title. Like Ian Stark, on Sir Wally, Mrs Leng is virtually assured of a place at the European championships providing her horse, Night Cap, remains sound.

Lucinda Green, the former world champion, will ride Shanagh, her short-listed horse. She may have a chance of success on her world championship partner, who has been going as well as ever this spring but was short-listed because of his age. Others trying to impress the selectors include Rachel Hunt, with Aloof, Rodney Powell, with both The Irishman and Calkin of Rushall, and Richard Walker, with Accomplish.

SWIMMING

Jager relieves Biondi of world record

Brisbane (Reuters) — Tom Jager, aged 22, of the United States, broke the 50 metres freestyle world record at the Pan Pacific championships yesterday when he swam 22.32 seconds to take one hundredth of a second off the mark established by Matt Biondi.

Biondi, swimming in the next lane to Jager, was beaten to the touch by his great friend and rival, who punched the air with joy when he turned to see the time on the electronic scoreboard.

Jager won the gold medal at last year's world championships in Madrid but has lived largely in the shadow of Biondi, aged 21, who still holds the 100 metres world record of 48.74sec.

ATHLETICS

Ringmaster Bedford tries another new approach

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

Twenty years ago, the International Athletics Club inaugurated the televised "spectacular" meeting, with the emphasis on individual invitations rather than the two-nation match. It became the model for such meetings around Europe. The grand prix circuit, sponsored by Mobil, is a direct descendant, and the two-nation match is virtually dead.

Now, despite the irony of the IAC being told to move its meetings outside London next year if it wants to stay on the circuit (under the grand prix laws prohibiting two meetings in the same city, the Peugeot Talbot Games take precedence), the innovations planned for this evening's IAC/Miller Lite meeting could again point the way for athletics in the future.

And it would not be a future to everyone's taste. For David Bedford, the former holder of the world 10,000 metres record and IAC chairman, has organized his events around an infield that will be lit like a circus ring. The handicap mile has been resurrected, and there is a "Devil-Take-The-Hindmost" cycle race.

The purists might sneer at the javelin tangents being illuminated by golf-ball lights. In the same way that there must have been ancient Greeks who felt that running round a track rather than across stony hillsides was a gimmick. But it has stood the test of time.

As for the handicap and cycle race, your correspondent used to spend many happy hours running slow enough to one handicap to get his mark up for the next, and watching the cycling, which used to be combined with athletics at meetings throughout Britain until a decade ago.

What is moot is the conflict between introducing these gimmicks as part of the "sport as entertainment" belief and the fear that television exposure will sooner or later kill interest in athletics. Even though the sport is marketed by such diverse characters as Bedford and Andy Norman, the promotions officer for the British Amateur Athletic Board, men like Stan Long, the Gateshead "guru", see crowds falling off Steve Cram, who is not running tonight, heads the list of those athletes who think that British audiences are already over-exposed to the sport.

But tonight's "experiment" will be interesting none the less.

Champions selected

The annual junior international between Great Britain and West Germany is traditionally based on the 40th birthday of the age groupings, but for this season's encounter, in Lage on August 22, Britain is able to name three European junior champions.

Jamie Henderson, Peter Clampton and Stephen Beckley are all eligible to compete in the world junior championships next year, and travel with a very strong squad.

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Barclays step quickly into League breach

By Clive White

Five days was all it took to form the most prestigious team in British sport it was revealed yesterday when the Football League and Barclays Bank Ltd signed a record sponsorship deal of almost £5 million over three years — just 48 hours before the start of the new season.

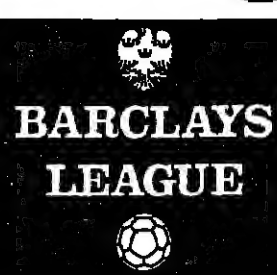
This unexpected liaison with a company of such international repute could not be better timed, in the League's centenary season, to coincide with the English game's steady rehabilitation after the massive harm done to it by the tragedy of Brussels two years ago.

John Quinton, the chairman of Barclays Bank and a season-ticket holder at Tottenham Hotspur, warned yesterday, however, that while he hoped the sponsorship of the "Barclays League" would extend beyond three years, there were certain withdrawal clauses. "We certainly wouldn't want to be associated with a lot of blood running in the streets," he said.

Quinton admitted that it was unlikely the bank would have considered such a sponsorship deal two years ago, but that the game was now moving in the right direction towards controlling hooliganism at matches. "It is difficult to know what can be done to control a small measure of people but there have been improvements thanks to family enclosures, video cameras and the like."

Philip Carter, president of the Football League, while jubilant at reaching agreement with Barclays just five days after the unexpected withdrawal of the *Today* newspaper, is only too aware that this is a "make-or-break" year for English football with regard to hooliganism.

With this season culminating in the anticipated



participation of England in the European Championship finals in West Germany and re-admission of English clubs into European club competitions, Carter said "we must be seen to have our house in order". He said that he had been "heartened" by weekend discussions with Jacques Georges, the president of UEFA, and Colin Moynihan, the Minister for Sport.

Barclays, one of half a dozen major companies interested in sponsoring the League, declared its interest on the Monday after the withdrawal of *Today*. The idea of sponsoring the League was put forward by the bank's public relations department, but it was originally rejected by Owen Rout, the executive director (UK Operations), as being not suitable for the bank.

However, Nick Cobban, the manager of the public rela-

tions department, asked Rout (who shyly admits to being offered a trial with Ipswich Town in the Fifties) to think again, and the enthusiasm of the marketing people persuaded Barclays management to throw their hat into the ring that same day.

Barclays contacted CSS Promotions, who handle the League's commercial interests, to declare their interest, and on the Wednesday the League management committee gave CSS permission to present the Barclays offer ahead of half a dozen other major companies interested in striking a deal.

It took just two and a quarter hours last Friday for the League and Barclays to reach agreement. The meeting was attended by Philip Carter, the League president, Graham Kelly, the secretary, Ken Bates, the Chelsea chairman, Trevor Phillips, the League's negotiator, and Barrie Gill, the chairman of CSS. The deal was kept a secret right through the weekend's centenary celebrations, of which Mercantile Credit, a subsidiary of Barclays, was the sponsor.

Speaking at yesterday's hastily organized, but polished Press conference, Quinton explained that Barclays had

never seriously considered professional sports sponsorship despite their heavy involvement at youth level in various sports.

"We always knew, however, that if we were to venture into sports sponsorship, it would have to be something big, as befits our size and strength in the market place. We decided to go for a higher profile and a more active advertising stance." The money represents between 7% and 10% per cent of their total advertising budget.

With a branch in every town Barclays are conscious of the convenience of the sponsorship. "It offers more matches during a longer season than any other sports event in the UK, has 14 live televised matches during this season and offers enormous scope for our local branches and branch staff to become involved," he said. It is estimated that about 40 per cent of League clubs bank with Barclays.

Unlike Canon, the League's first sponsors, who greatly popularized their name through their involvement in football, Barclays feel their need is merely to remind people who they are and to combat heavy advertising by their rivals.

Football unites in clean-up

By Dennis Shaw

Representatives of clubs, referees and players were united at Villa Park last night in approving a plan to improve the game's image for the Football League's centenary season.

In a mood of optimism, boosted by the Barclays sponsorship, a meeting of managers endorsed guidelines painstakingly put together by Jimmy Hill, Ron Greenwood and Bertie Mee.

Following a series of meet-

ings of the various interested bodies last season and during the summer, a package for progress has been accepted by all parties.

It includes action against time-wasting late goalkeepers, stealing ground at throw-ins, coaching and foul language from the touchline, all kinds of dissent and the practice of individuals attacking each other verbally and in print.

The meeting was attended

by leading managers or their assistants, the referees' president, Lester Shapter, and the chairman of the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA), Gordon Taylor.

"Referees have agreed that in every case of a deliberate cynical foul with violence involved the culprit will be sent off," Hill said. "Managers have agreed to co-operate and so have the PFA. It is case of all sides co-operating for the good of the game."

Many notable absentees from MCC festivities

By Ivo Tennant

No member of the Royal Family, nor even Prince Philip, a former president of MCC, will be present at the Guildhall dinner on the eve of MCC's bicentenary match next week, or indeed at the match itself. Neither will any notable politician, other than Lord Home, the former Prime Minister, be present.

The match between MCC and the Rest of the World falls, of course, at a time when a Buckingham Palace spokesman said yesterday that the Royal Family would be

undertaking functions, all of them near to Balmoral, where they are staying.

An MCC spokesman said that, unusually, the Queen had not been to any match at Lord's this season. Lord Home and Clive Lloyd, the former captain of the West Indies, will be speaking at the Guildhall dinner.

In the absence of Colin Cowdrey, the dismissed president of MCC, Hubert Duggart, the club's treasurer, will take the chair.

Nottinghamshire trio decide on Lord's

By Alan Lee

MCC's five-day match against The Rest of the World at Lord's next week was last night briefly confronted by calamity as Nottinghamshire seriously considered withdrawing four players.

Nottinghamshire, who are in a strong position to win all three of the county competitions still open to them, have two Britannic Championship fixtures coinciding with the bicentenary game, and Clive Rice, their captain, believes it is unfair that they should approach such vital matches quite so depleted.

After discussing the situation yesterday with the other three players concerned — Richard Hadlee, Chris Broad and Bruce French — Rice met Ken Taylor, the Nottinghamshire cricket manager, to put his point of view. He found,

however, only limited support as Taylor believes such a delicate decision is a matter for the conscience of individuals.

"I don't see that I am in a position to withdraw players," Taylor said. "They have been invited as individuals and have agreed substantial money. All of them have accepted. We have known about the selection for some weeks now and it would reflect badly on us if we tried to get players released at this late stage just because we are top of the table."

"I am a bit upset about the whole thing because we are clearly suffering more than any other county. But if the players are leaving it up to me, there will be no attempt to withdraw the three who are playing, though I will definitely request that Rice, who is a reserve, should be released."

The Lord Mayor of London, Sir David Rowe-Ham, will be present, but neither Sir Donald Bradman nor Sir Gary Sobers, the game's best known knights, will be at the dinner or at Lord's.

The guest list does, though, include many familiar names. On it there are 11 England captains, ranging from Sir Gubby Allen to Mike Gatting, MCC's captain.

The guest list does not include any South Africans, although members of the South African Cricket Union executive will be at the ground. There will be six representatives from Australia, including Ray Lindwall and Keith Miller, two from New Zealand, Martin Donnelly and Walter Hadlee, who will be watching his son, Richard, and four from the West Indies, including two of the famous three — "We", Everton Weekes and Clyde Walcott.

From India and Pakistan come V S Hazare, Hanif Karami and Majid Khan; from Sri Lanka, Gamini Goonesena and Duleep Mendis. The four English cricketers who have scored double hundreds at Lord's — Gatting, Denis Compton, Geoff Boycott and M J K Smith — have accepted invitations, as have 14 honorary members of MCC, from Leslie Ames to Bob Taylor.

Lloyds' award

Jeremy Lloyds, the Gloucestershire all-rounder, has won the Britannic Assurance Championship player of the month award for July.

Capel heads a Northants coup

By Alan Lee

LEICESTER: Northamptonshire beat Leicestershire by 85 runs.

When the weather at last related yesterday, Northamptonshire progressed, without a moment's alarm, to their second Cup final of the year. It had looked a good contest overnight, but it turned out a non-event, Northamptonshire emphasizing the dramatic shift in cricket's balance of power which has been indicated all summer.

Victory over their oldest and keenest rivals made them the third county to reach both knock-out finals in the same season: Middlesex, in 1975, were the first; Essex achieved the feat 10 years later. Both were engaged in periods of success to interest the Monopolies Commission and, while Northamptonshire are some way off such eminence, they are undoubtedly

equipped to go on winning for some years to come.

Along with Yorkshire, who beat them in the Benson and Hedges final, and Nottinghamshire, whom they will meet at Lord's on September 5, Northamptonshire have stripped the southern clubs of the power they have wielded over the county competitions throughout the decade. It is a healthy change of fortune and by no means a freak.

Players such as David Capel will ensure Northamptonshire are not one-season wonders. Capel, aged 24, went some way to deciding this match on Wednesday evening, with 46 rapid runs and the wickets of both Leicestershire openers. Yesterday, when play finally resumed at 2.45 p.m., he hit Peter Willey's off stump in the fifth over of the session.

It secured him the man of the match award and knocked the fight out of Leicestershire, who had been heavily reliant

on Willey and Gower to provide the bulk of the 213 they still needed.

While Gower remained, anything was possible. When he had made 34, however, he forced Wild upshilly to cover where Watkins, leading Northamptonshire with Cook nursing a damaged hip, performed a passable audition as a circus juggler before holding on at the fourth attempt.

Whitaker, who has been running into form just as the season is running out on him, now stood almost alone and his was indicative both of Leicestershire's day and his season that he perished to a farcical run-out. Cliff refusing to answer a call after dabbling Cook to Davis at short third man.

Cliff himself, strangely belated, was then the first victim of the underrated off-breaks of Williams, who came on for the 37th over, almost as an afterthought, and finished

with four for 10 from eight overs.

A despairing blow or two from the tailenders was all that remained of a thoroughly inept batting performance. It ended, in the 52nd over, with Ferris whirling himself off his feet to hoist Cook high towards the spectators, where Walker took a running catch typical of Northamptonshire's marvellous out-crick.

"High overdrifts and outstanding looms attract late charges at a time when the club can least afford them."

Peter Rilett, of Peat Marwick McLintock, says: "Where the information is disclosed, the gate receipts are a smaller and smaller proportion of the revenue, with other money coming from such things as personal loans from directors and supporters' clubs."

He also points out that many club directors, who are professional businessmen, run firms with a far smaller turnover than football clubs. "Many have been kind of the club since the age of seven and very few have the experience of being the director of a plc."

One outstanding exception to the rule is the Maxwell family, who are involved with Oxford United and Derby County.

Clubs risk losing their support

Rilett is also concerned with the "big interdependence" of football clubs with outstanding amounts owing on transfer fees. If one club were to go bankrupt there would be a knock-on effect. "It is a bit like a pack of cards," he said.

Rilett, like many before him, predicts that numerous football problems would be solved if clubs were prepared to share grounds. "This will become increasingly inevitable. It is really the only way in the long-term."

But he believes it is more likely to come about with two grounds being sold and a new one built, rather than one club moving into the stadium of another. "Clubs will probably prefer a neutral territory. Otherwise they will risk losing a lot of support. But also the present state of most League grounds are unsuitable for providing the facilities for family entertainment and for other activities."

Both Rilett and Geoff Wilcock, a director of Jordan Information Service, regret the move away from artificial turf, with its ability to stage other activities, following its ban for FA Cup and Littlewoods Cup games.

Wilcock said: "Whatever the arguments on the quality of football, there is no doubt that the clubs are not doing themselves any favours from a financial position."

The Football League, banking in the relief of a new sponsorship deal at the dawn of its centenary season, has still to come to terms with the problems it is taking into its second century.

TCCB silences Bird on Constant issue

Khan, and their tour manager, Hasib Ahsan, who called the umpire "a disgraceful man".

But Bird is delighted that Imran spoke highly of his abilities when asked, at the end of the Test, who he thought was a good English umpire.

"That's a lovely compliment and perhaps I will now get a good reception when I go to Pakistan and India to umpire the World Cup along with David Shepherd," Bird said.

Bird and Shepherd also stand in next Thursday's bicentenary game at Lord's.

Tour baggage handler treated 'like servant'

The baggage handler to the Pakistan cricket team has criticized Hasib Ahsan, the tourists' manager, for treating him "like a servant".

Tony Smith, who has 16 years' experience with teams touring England, said that Pakistan players sometimes apologized to him after Hasib had "ranted and raved" at him in front of other people.

Hasib, who has been an outspoken critic of umpires and the tour itinerary this season, was described by Smith as a "Jekyll and Hyde character, an enigma, at one moment charming and at the next shouting and snapping".

Smith added: "All the other tour managers I have dealt with since 1972 have all been consistently pleasant. But I think it is true that Hasib went out of his way to provoke controversy on this tour. His reason was supposedly to shield the captain, Imran Khan, which is ridiculous."

Smith, who has spent 15 weeks with the tourists, added that Hasib ordered him to make unreasonably long journeys outside the terms of his contract with the Pakistan Board.

Theakston crashes

Vila Pouca de Aguiar (AP) —

Cayn Theakston, of Britain, was forced to abandon the Tour of Portugal cycle race yesterday after a serious fall while holding a 16-second lead overall.

Theakston was among several riders in the leading pack who fell shortly after the start of the 178km sixteenth stage. Theakston continued but was losing blood and dropped out to seek medical assistance further on. He was treated at Braga hospital for abrasions. He had been forced to abandon the Tour of Portugal a year ago after he broke an arm in fall in the same area. He was then leading the race and favourite to win.

Switch off

Manchester Allstars have turned down a £3,000 offer from Streatham Olympians to switch tomorrow's Budweiser American football quarter-final to London.

Back cover

George Graham, the Arsenal manager, has scotched pre-season speculation surrounding the future of Kenny Sansom at Highbury. Graham's signing of Nigel Winterburn from Wimbledon had raised doubts that the England full back would not be a first choice this season. Graham said: "Kenny will definitely captain the side against Liverpool on Saturday. I bought Nigel Winterburn because I think he is one of the top young full backs in the country and I have got to get a good squad together."

Hurdles doubt

Creteil (AFP) — Stephane Caristan, of France, the European high hurdles champion and record holder, is unlikely to run in the world athletics championships in Rome after breaking down in training here yesterday. Caristan was having his first outing since suffering a mysterious groin injury three weeks ago.

Tour leader

Lancashire have named Alex Murphy manager for the Rugby League tour match against Papua New Guinea at St Helens on October 14.

END COLUMN

Another side of coin for football

By John Goodbody

Just when the Football League thought it was safe to trumpet its centenary, with a new sponsorship worth almost £5 million, a report has revealed that 80 of their 92 clubs, who begin tomorrow's "Barclays League" programme, are technically insolvent.

The survey by Jordans, who specialize in company information, with an introduction from Peat Marwick McLintock, Britain's largest firm of accountants, shows the figure to be 34 clubs higher than when the last report on the financial state of football was conducted, in May 1985.

The survey is published from accounts submitted by "companies." However, it is largely with the 1985-86 season — when the game was still affected by the tragedies of Brussels and Bradford — and before last season's apparent attendance by almost a million.

Strictly speaking, the accounts still reflect the present financial position of the clubs, as well as 34 clubs who have not yet submitted their accounts for 1985-86.

Some disturbing long-term trends

But while certain clubs made considerable losses in the 1985-86 season, after the result of transfer fees in rebuilding teams, this can be rewarded in subsequent seasons. Coventry, for example, made the highest loss of any club — £1.5 million — but were rewarded with their first FA Cup triumph last May.

More disturbing are the long-term trends. The introduction stresses: "With escalating costs and falling gate receipts, many clubs are heavily in debt, and rely greatly upon the clearing banks and the personal support of the directors, many of whom are life-long supporters."

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